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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19101 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1995 TISHREI 28, 5756 JAMAD 28, 1416 NIS 4.20 (EILAT NIS 3.60)

## Combat jets to mark first year of peace with Jordan

**ALON PINKAS**  
ISRAELI and Jordanian combat jets and attack helicopters will fly over Israel and Jordan in a special display today to mark the first anniversary of the signing of the peace agreement.  
IAF F-15 and F-16 fighter jets and Black Hawk transportation helicopters, and Jordanian Air Force F-5 and F-1 jets and Super Puma helicopters will begin their flight over Tiberias at 10:42 a.m., reach Haifa at approximately 10:47 a.m., veer south along the coastline to Tel Aviv at about 11 a.m., and fly over Jerusalem at 11:06. The formation is scheduled to fly over Amman at 11:17.  
The helicopters will fly in close formation and display Israeli and Jordanian flags, as well as a banner reading "Shalom and Salam."  
Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is scheduled to meet in New York today with Jordan's King Hussein.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin meets King Hassan of Morocco (left) on Friday in New York, where both are attending the special commemorative session of the General Assembly on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the UN.

## Rabin tells Christopher Syrian support of terror harming talks

**HILLEL KUTTLER, MARILYN HENRY and news agencies**  
SYRIA'S support of terrorism is harming the negotiations with Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told US Secretary of State Warren Christopher last night in New York, an Israeli source said.  
Rabin told Christopher that Israel is interested in restarting a dialogue according to the understanding reached last June. But he stressed that the support Syria gives Hizbullah and the increase in terror activities supported by the government in Damascus are "sending negative signals that are not helpful for the negotiations," the Israeli official said.  
Christopher will also meet early this week with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara.  
The three are among the many world leaders attending this week's celebrations of the United Nations' 50th anniversary.  
King Hassan of Morocco, also in New York for the UN celebrations, met with Rabin on Friday evening and told him further steps would be taken soon to normalize relations between the two countries, Israeli diplomatic sources said.  
An Israeli official said the purpose of last night's discussion between Rabin and Christopher was "to prepare for the Shara meeting and verify with Rabin what Shara has to say in order for Christopher to go to the region."  
Depending on the Syrian position, such a visit could occur the first week in November, the official said. Christopher is already due to be in the region at the end of this month for the Amman economic conference, but must return to the US immediately afterwards to open the Balkan peace talks in Ohio.  
"No specific dates were discussed," said an Israeli official at the meeting at the Regency Hotel. "At this point, we are looking at continuing the Israeli-Syrian dialogue in Washington."  
Talks with Shara two weeks ago in Washington revealed no change in the Syrian position to hold security talks with Israel only at the ambassadorial level. Israel is adamant that Damascus honor its US-brokered commitment to hold such talks between military officials.  
Rabin said yesterday he doesn't know of any breakthrough in the talks with Syria. There was no reason to continue with the talks, because the results of Christopher's last visit to the region had not borne fruit, he added, according to Israeli Radio. Rabin was speaking following a meeting with former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger.  
Kissinger for the first time publicly expressed support for the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement.  
Meanwhile, a working paper by the Foreign Ministry says chances are slim that Syria and Israel will get back to the negotiating table soon, Israeli Radio reported.  
The document notes there has been a recent escalation in harsh statements from Damascus and pointed to the two Hizbullah attacks that killed nine IDF soldiers in Lebanon, where Syria is the main power broker.  
During Rabin's meeting with Hassan on Friday night, the king said Morocco is considering asking the Arab League to end the boycott of Israel, according to the sources in New York. The sources said an announcement may come during the Amman conference next week.  
"They will say that maintaining the boycott is hurting the Palestinian people," said a reliable source.  
The two leaders were said to have also discussed the state of peace talks, bilateral relations and Islamic fundamentalism during their one-hour meeting.  
Rabin expressed hope that the king would help develop regional economic cooperation and encourage more Arab states to join the peace process.  
Morocco and Israel currently have reciprocal liaison offices.  
It was the third time Rabin and Hassan have met since Rabin first visited Rabat in 1993. The meeting was not originally on Rabin's itinerary.  
Rabin also met with UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and said "Khomeinism without Khomeini" is a leading threat to the region.  
Islamic extremism "endangers peace, tranquillity and stability in the region through terrorism and (Continued on Page 2)

## Northern Command to begin probe of Lebanon deaths

**ALON PINKAS**  
THE Northern Command will begin its investigation today of the two incidents during Succot in which nine soldiers were killed in the security zone in Lebanon.  
The investigation, to be conducted by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amir Levine, will rely on two lower-level inquiries made by the Golani Brigade and the Lebanon Liaison Unit.  
Both investigations concluded that in the second attack, last Sunday, Golani company commander Capt. Yossi Ohana failed to obtain the brigade commander's authorization to move on dirt roads, considered dangerous and prone to mines.  
Ohana was cautioned by his battalion commander not to drive on the dirt road with an armored personnel carrier (APC) that was inadequately protected. Ohana and five of his soldiers were killed when their APC ran over a mine on a dirt road leading from a pine forest to a paved road.  
The investigation will thus focus on a possible miscommunication between the company and battalion commanders on both the issue of the road and the use of the specific APC.  
The investigation conducted by Brig.-Gen. Giora Inbar, the commander of the Lebanon Liaison Unit, revealed that a better-protected APC was in fact available for use, but Ohana was not advised of this. He got the approval of the battalion commander to proceed with the other APC, on the assumption the heavier one still had technical problems.  
A Northern Command source said yesterday he doubts any disciplinary measures will be taken. "We are not talking about lack of discipline or failure to observe procedures," he said. "At worst, and I am not even sure of this at this point, we will find a bad judgment call. These occur whenever commanders make so many decisions under the conditions that exist in Lebanon."  
SLA officer wounded, Page 2

## Clinton launches compromise drive on embassy bill


**HILLEL KUTTLER**  
**WASHINGTON**  
THE Clinton administration launched a last-minute effort Friday to induce a Senate compromise on a bill calling for the US Embassy to be moved to Jerusalem.  
The bill's sponsor, Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, announced Friday that a vote on the bill would be held tomorrow.  
The US's special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross made the rounds on Capitol Hill seeking to tone down the bill so the administration might support it.  
The administration had previously not sought a compromise, and Republican sources were critical of the absence of any dialogue prior to Friday.  
The administration fears that moving the embassy could hurt Israeli-Palestinian final-status talks, and so is now seeking to insert a provision linking a move to the actual conclusion of those negotiations, rather than to the scheduled May 1999 conclusion.  
But a Senate Republican source called that proposal "silly" and said it is "not doable, not negotiable."  
The administration has argued that the Senate's compelling an embassy move infringes on the President's constitutional authority.  
Dole last week removed the bill's requirement that construction on the embassy begin by May 1996, in an attempt to draw broader support.  
In a meeting at the White House on Thursday night with several Senate opponents of the bill - including Dianne Feinstein, the top-ranking Democrat on the Near East subcommittee - administration officials said President Clinton would veto the Dole bill as it now stands. Senate sources said.  
That would represent overwhelming support in the 100-member body, and more than the two-thirds necessary to override a presidential veto.  
But Dole would discuss a deal with the administration that would avoid a messy veto and override, if it does not emasculate the bill, Senate sources said.  
Should talks with the administration this weekend fail, Dole will bring the bill to the floor in its present form even though it would be vetoed, they added.  
Last-minute cancellations seemed to come as leaders decided they couldn't afford, politically, to be away from home.  
Shevardnadze's spokeswoman would not say why the Georgian leader backed out. But the Interfax news agency, quoting unidentified sources close to Shevardnadze, said he wanted to concentrate on the November 5 presidential and parliamentary elections in the former Soviet republic. Shevardnadze is expected to win the presidency.  
In Bonn, the German chancellor's chief spokesman, Peter Hansmann, said Kohl was staying in Germany for "schedule reasons" made long ago. Kohl is sending Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel instead. But some Germans wondered whether Kohl was attending to secret business at home.  
In addition to Iraq and Libya, other countries sending foreign ministers instead of their heads of state include Malaysia, Burma, Kenya, Ecuador, Peru and all of the Persian Gulf states.

## Construction of Kiryat Gat Intel plant 'a breakthrough for Israeli industry'

**ABRAHAM RABINOVICH**  
IN a move acknowledging Israel's advanced position in the world of high technology, Intel announced plans Friday to build a \$1.6 billion semiconductor plant in Kiryat Gat, the largest industrial investment ever made here.  
Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said at a press conference that the investment had implications well beyond its direct economic impact.  
"The American business community sees this as an expression of confidence in the Israeli economy and in Israel," he said. "It creates a view of Israel as a place with the manpower and the technology to attract a project like this."  
The plant will provide a major boost to the economy of the South, with most of the workers expected to be drawn from the area between Ashdod and Beer-sheva. It will employ 1,500 people directly and provide work for more than 3,000 others through contractors and suppliers.  
The facility will produce Flash Memory, which provides easily reprogrammable memory for computers and other systems, and retains data even when the computer's power is turned off. An annual turnover of \$1b. is anticipated when the plant becomes fully operational. Construction is expected to take 20 months and production is to start in three years.  
Dr. Dov Frohman, general manager of Intel Israel, said the skilled manpower available in Israel was 90 percent of the reason the Intel Corporation decided to establish the plant here. He noted that Israel had beaten out competition for the plant from many countries and virtually every state in the US.  
Terming the investment "a breakthrough for Israeli industry into the next century" he mentioned that the plant would have to prove its competitiveness in the world market. He noted that the level of salaries was an important element in the final price of the product and the Israeli company's ability to remain competitive.  
Intel, which has been operating in Israel for 22 years, has plants in Haifa and Jerusalem employing a total of 1,500 workers.  
Frohman said the ability to design future Intel processors in the country and to manufacture competitively "will change the map of technology, development and manufacturing in Israel in the next 20 years."  
Intel Israel's exports last year totaled \$364 million, making it one of the country's top 10 exporters. Frohman, who is also a vice president of Intel Corporation, the world's largest chip manufacturer, said output per employee will be \$450,000 per (Continued on Page 2)

## Some world leaders send regrets to UN 50th birthday bash

**News agencies**  
UNITED NATIONS - More than 180 heads of state were invited to the United Nations' 50th birthday party. But a select few have sent their regrets.  
The long-planned celebrations begin officially today. Each of the 185 UN members, plus those with observer status such as Switzerland, the Vatican and the PLO, were invited to send their kings, presidents, prime ministers or other high-ranking officials.  
Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sent his regrets, the president of Italy, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, has political troubles at home, and the Georgian leader, Eduard Shevardnadze, is worried about rebel activity if he leaves.  
The president of the Congo, Pascal Lissouba, canceled his visit to New York and Washington shortly before he was due to leave because his bankrupt government could not afford the trip, according to a presidential source in Brazzaville.  
No explanation was forthcoming for Mubarak's last-minute cancellation. The Egyptian leader also backed out of the just-ended Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Cartagena, Colombia.  
Helmut Kohl says he never planned to attend, a surprise to those who thought Germany's chancellor would seize the chance to continue lobbying for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.  
And then, some no-shows came as no surprise. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi will not be attending; their countries are under UN sanctions.  
PLO leader Yasser Arafat will be making his first visit to the United Nations in 21 years. Cuban President Fidel Castro is also speaking; it is his first visit since 1979 and second as head of state.  
Yugoslavia's seat on the assembly was suspended in 1992. So as much as President Slobodan Milosevic may have wanted to come to New York, where he once worked as a banker, he wasn't invited.  
Last-minute cancellations seemed to come as leaders decided they couldn't afford, politically, to be away from home.  
Shevardnadze's spokeswoman would not say why the Georgian leader backed out. But the Interfax news agency, quoting unidentified sources close to Shevardnadze, said he wanted to concentrate on the November 5 presidential and parliamentary elections in the former Soviet republic. Shevardnadze is expected to win the presidency.  
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In addition to Iraq and Libya, other countries sending foreign ministers instead of their heads of state include Malaysia, Burma, Kenya, Ecuador, Peru and all of the Persian Gulf states.



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A special thanks to all our friends and contributors for their wholehearted response to the LIBI Fund's Rosh Hashana Appeal.



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# Fighting resumes in zone; bomb wounds SLA officer

DAVID RUDGE

A SOUTH Lebanese Army officer was wounded in a Hizbullah roadside bomb attack near Beit Yahoun in the western sector of the security zone yesterday, as fighting resumed after a brief respite.

Meanwhile, IDF and SLA troops in the security zone remained on full alert amid reports, based on military assessments, that Hizbullah is likely to try to intensify its attacks in light of its recent morale-boosting successes.

Lebanese radio stations reported that a house in Tibnin village, north of the zone, was damaged during IDF and SLA shelling of Hizbullah targets in response to the roadside bomb attack. There were no reports, however, of any civilian casualties from the shelling.

A statement issued by Hizbullah said its gunmen responsible

for planting and detonating the device had all returned safely to their bases.

Reports from south Lebanon said the SLA officer was lightly wounded in the blast and had been transferred to nearby Bint J'bil hospital.

Hizbullah is also believed to be responsible for a mortar attack on an SLA outpost in the same area late on Friday night. There were no casualties in that incident and IDF gunners returned fire.

The attacks yesterday broke a brief lull in the fighting in south Lebanon in the wake of the fierce exchanges last week after two separate attacks in which nine Golan Brigade soldiers were killed and seven wounded.

Those incidents, a well-planned ambush and a roadside bomb attack, both occurred in

the Aishiyeh region in the north-eastern sector of the zone.

It is believed that the Hizbullah terrorists who carried out the attacks had received detailed information about IDF movements.

Hizbullah issued a statement after the ambush 10 days ago that the operation, against IDF troops traveling in civilian vehicles, had "proved the effectiveness of the reconnaissance of the Islamic Resistance's fighters who detected covert movements of the enemy in darkness."

The statement said the operation had also shown the "Islamic Resistance's mastery of the terrain by their penetration of a chain of enemy positions undetected."

Some military experts believe that members of the same squad which carried out the ambush

against the convoy in which three soldiers were killed and six wounded, also planted the roadside bomb near the Rehan position.

The device went off under an armored personnel carrier last Sunday killing six more Golan Brigade soldiers and wounding a seventh while they were on operational duties in the area.

There have been reports in Lebanese newspapers recently that a number of SLA troops had defected a few weeks ago from a position in the Rehan area.

The reports, which were also carried by Lebanese radio stations, said elements of the SLA Tenth Battalion had defected and that the post itself had been taken over by the IDF which was investigating the matter.

There have been no confirmation of these reports from any other sources.



Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur (right) is congratulated by Druse leaders at a gathering of supporters held over the weekend at Kibbutz Shefayim, where he announced he will run in the Labor Party primaries on the national list. (Beni Birk)

## Arafat to meet with US Jews

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

PALESTINIAN Authority head Yasser Arafat has long sought a public audience with American Jews, and tomorrow will meet with them on US soil - twice.

However, the events are far from trouble-free. American Jewish leaders have been ambivalent about a meeting, and many were rankled by the publicity and the platform.

The first meeting is with the executive board of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, which issued the invitation.

Some members of NJCRC, an umbrella organization representing some national Jewish agencies and local community councils throughout the US, were surprised and irritated that the invitation was issued without their knowledge.

The second meeting is a private session, set for later tomorrow, between Arafat and a delegation from the Conference of Presi-

dents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The conference "had been approached about a meeting," said Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice chairman. He declined to say whether the PLO or Israeli officials had suggested the meeting.

Arafat is in New York for ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

"It is a separate issue that Israel negotiates with Arafat," said Betty Ehrenberg of the Institute of Public Affairs of the Orthodox Union. "The American Jewish community doesn't have to honor him with recognition."

The Orthodox Union will not be attending the NJCRC-Arafat meeting, although it supports the delegation of the presidents' conference. "The conference is not giving him a public platform;

it is a private meeting," Ehrenberg said.

The conference is the traditional American Jewish host for foreign officials, and some questioned why NJCRC, a domestic organization, had issued the Arafat invitation.

However, NJCRC executive director Larry Rubin rejected the notion that the meeting was inappropriate. "The Middle East peace process is the principal item on the Jewish communal agenda," Rubin said. "It doesn't belong to any one organization."

The NJCRC meeting also presents problems for council officials in some of the larger Jewish communities.

"We have constituents who support the peace process and others who don't," said one official, who declined to be identified. "If we go to the meeting, it sends a message that aggravates some people, and if we don't go it aggravates the others."

## Cairo paper: PA, Hamas agree to talks in Egypt next month

JON IMMANUEL

HAMAS and the Palestinian Authority have agreed to open talks in Egypt early next month to reach an agreement between them, the Cairo daily *Al-Ahram* reported Friday.

*Al-Ahram* quoted PA Secretary-General Tayeb Abdel-Raheem as saying that Egypt agreed to sponsor the talks. The report was carried in the Jerusalem Arabic press yesterday.

Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, a senior Hamas spokesman recently released from Gaza prison after four months in detention, said the report was inaccurate.

"Until now there is no agreement with the authority about the location of the dialogue, but this does not mean that the response of Hamas is negative. There is nothing decided, but there is talking all the time," said Zahar.

The PA has insisted that any agreement must include a complete cessation of violence against Israel by the armed wing of Hamas, Izzadin Kassam, from territory under Palestinian authority.

Zahar said once a decision is made to go to talks, the agenda will be open.

PLO and Hamas officials have previously met in Sudan, an Islamic radical state. Talks among Hamas officials from different

countries earlier this month failed to produce a consensus on declaring an end to violence against Israel from Palestinian areas.

Egypt is at war with Islamic radicals and is unlikely to invite a considerable number of Hamas - supporters from Jordan, Syria, Sudan and other countries - who express more radical anti-Israel views than the political leadership of Hamas in Gaza.

Jailed Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin expressed support last week for an agreement with the PA in a meeting with MK Tzvi Grinvald in Ashkelon Prison.

Support for the Palestinian opposition is slipping. Two recent Palestinian polls conducted independently, one still unpublished, put support for the Oslo 2 accord at virtually the same level, between 72-73 percent.

A second group of former Hamas members last week declared a political party, authorized by the PA. The party, headed by Hader Mahjez, is called the Islamic Palestinian Unity Party. The first, Al-Masdar, was declared last year by Mohammed Abu Dan, who was once imprisoned for five years by Israel.

Abu Dan was expelled from Hamas when he joined the Palestinian secret police. Mahjez was supposed to head the Morals Squad, but it was quashed by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

### Syrian ferry breaks down on way to Palestinians

A Syrian ferry broke down in the Mediterranean yesterday two hours after it left Syria to pick up hundreds of Palestinians, who have been stranded at sea since their expulsion from Libya nine

days ago. Speed boats with repair men aboard were dispatched from Latakia to fix the *Fayssa Express*, said Cypriot port officials, who were in radio contact with the ferry. (AP)

### Arab League head blasts states for ties with Israel

ARAB League Secretary-General Esamat Abdel-Meguid made scathing critical comments over the weekend about the speed at which some Arab states are normalizing relations with Israel.

Abdel-Meguid, a former Egyptian foreign minister, was quoted yesterday in the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram* as saying, "The rushing weakens the negotiating position of the Arabs vis-a-vis Israel. Israel must understand that peace is not a gift it is giving the Arabs. On the contrary, Israel is the primary beneficiary."

Egypt's official media has recently been critical of the normalization of relations between Jordan and Israel, and has insisted that Egypt is being careful to keep relations at the lowest possible level until there is a comprehensive peace in the region. *Item*

### PA police confront Ze'evi in Jericho

News agencies

MOLEDET party head MK Rehavam Ze'evi, who has vowed to shoot any Palestinian policeman trying to stop him, came face to face with that reality Friday - and balked.

The confrontation came when he led a group of party members to the Shalom Al Yisrael synagogue in Jericho, at the start of a tour to demonstrate support for Jordan Valley residents.

A Palestinian Police patrol ordered his convoy to remove the Israeli flags it was flying and an argument broke out when the drivers refused, Israel Radio said. According to an agreement between the IDF and the Palestinians, it is forbidden to fly Israeli flags within the autonomous areas.

According to Ze'evi, one of the Palestinian officers tried to remove a flag from a car. "I grabbed his hand and pushed him aside, at which point he cocked his weapon at me," he said.

Speaking to Israel Radio, Ze'evi said he left his gun in a different car and suggested that otherwise, he would have opened fire. IDF soldiers arrived shortly after the confrontation and escorted the convoy out of Jericho, flags waving.

### INTEL

(Continued from Page 1) year when the plant is at full production, 10 times the average in Israeli industry today.

Kiryat Gat, a development town halfway between Tel Aviv and Beersheba, is expected to be transformed by the plant, which will consume more electricity, 40

megawatts, than the entire town presently does and dominate it economically.

A 600-dunam area has been allocated to the facility. In the first phase, 100,000 square meters of floor space will be constructed, including an 8,000-sq.m. "clean room."

### RABIN

(Continued from Page 1) other violent activities," Rabin said.

He demanded that the PLO clamp down on extremist groups in areas under its control.

"We demand from [PLO leader Yasser] Arafat... to be more effective in coping with these terrorist groups," Rabin said. "We expect him to do better against terrorism."

Rabin also met briefly with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and reviewed the maps and timetables of the Oslo 2 accord.

The meeting was "unexpectedly calm," said one Israeli official, who added, "He was not asked

and did not answer any questions about the role of American Jews on Capitol Hill."

Last month, during the signing in Washington of Oslo 2, Rabin assailed American Jews for lobbying Congress against Israeli policies, saying this crossed a red line.

Rabin was also feted by the glitterati Friday night.

A Who's Who of Jewish businessmen, including Edgar Bronfman and Morton Zuckerman, as well as celebrity newscasters such as Dan Rather and Barbara Walters, joined Chaim Herzog, Abba Eban and the Israeli diplomatic corps at the Regency.

The unveiling of the tombstone of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

### EPHRAIM LAHAV

will take place on Thursday, October 26, 1995, at 2:30 p.m., at Har Hamenuhot in Jerusalem. We will gather at the entrance to the cemetery in Givat Shaul at 2:15 p.m.

The Lahav Family

### LEAH BECKER

will take place on Thursday, 26th of October, at 4 p.m. Meeting at the square of Har Tamir, Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul.

Ada Angel  
and the grandchildren: Naomi Angel-Merhav  
David Angel  
Gad Angel and their families

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Israeli shot dead in Tulkarm

A man originally from Tulkarm was shot dead yesterday in the town and police are examining whether the motive was criminal or political. Munir Abdo, 46, carried an Israeli ID card. Although these are frequently given to collaborators, Abdo had married an Israeli Arab woman. *Jon Immanuel*

#### Bethlehem march for prisoners

About 200 Palestinians participated in a march in Bethlehem yesterday to press for the release of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli jails. The group marched from the Red Cross building to City Hall bearing placards saying, "Without Palestinian prisoner release there is no peace." Security forces prevented the group from reaching Manger Square, so the protesters stopped marching and sang songs. *Item*

#### Rehov Bar-Ilan protests resume

Hundreds of haredim pushed garbage onto Rehov Bar-Ilan and threw stones at motorists yesterday afternoon after Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert announced last week he could not close the road on Shabbat. Some cars were damaged but there were no injuries. Police arrived on the scene and forced the protesters onto the sidewalks. *Item*

#### Boy killed, 12 people hurt on roads

A five-year-old boy from Tulkarm was killed yesterday afternoon when he was hit by a car near the town's train tracks. The driver who hit the boy brought him to the hospital where he was declared dead. Two men suffered moderate injuries Friday afternoon, in a collision between an Israeli and Palestinian car. Ten people were injured, one of them seriously, when a car overturned and another car hit it near the Nitzanim Junction on the Ashdod-Ashkelon highway. *Item*

#### Report: PM funding for Pollard

The Prime Minister's Office is secretly funding the activities of the Public Committee for Jonathan Pollard, Channel 2 television news reported on Friday.

According to the report, some \$3 million dollars has been transferred to the committee from an institution that is subordinate to the office, with the approval of both Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir. Pollard's attorneys have claimed that the committee has been acting to support the government's interests in avoiding friction with the US, rather than in Pollard's interests. *Item*

#### Labor to keep Kahalani and Zissman

Labor MKs Avigdor Kahalani and Emanuel Zissman - who voted against Oslo 2 and confidence in the government - will not be ejected from the party, faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen said last night. However, they will be removed from the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. The decision will be brought before the Labor faction for approval. MKs Haim Ramon and Avraham Katz-Oz will replace the two on the committee. *Item*

#### Toddler falls to death

An 18-month-old boy fell from the window of a third floor Jerusalem apartment yesterday and died shortly after reaching the hospital. Police said the boy apparently slipped out between metal bars, but they are investigating. *Item*

#### Bezeq credit coming for error

About 100,000 Bezeq subscribers in the Tel Aviv area have been sent phone bills with "small" improper charges, the telecommunications company announced last night. Customers will be credited for the money in their next phone bill. A "mistake" caused Bezeq to charge customers for equipment that is free, such as a phone socket. In all cases, the charges involved only a few shekels, Bezeq maintained. Bills that were sent out this past Thursday were correct. *Judy Siegel*

## A Passage to India



Join The Jerusalem Post Travel Club on a 15-day wondrous tour of the major sites, including Jaipur, Agra, Khajuraho, Varanasi, Madras, Madurai, Periyar, Cochin, Goa, Delhi and Bombay.

Planned with assistance of the Indian Ministry of Tourism, the tour itinerary includes the Taj Mahal at sunrise, a ride on elephants to the Amber Fort, a tour of the Temples of Kail and Kandariya Mahadev, the fabulous flower and fruit markets of Madras, a cruise on the Ganges and Lake Periyar (wildlife park), and a visit to the Cochin synagogue and Jewish sites; and much, much more.

This English-speaking tour has been especially planned, following requests from readers wishing to visit the fascinating sub-continent.

Departure date: January 15, 1996

The price: US\$2,999, includes international and internal flights, and is per person in a double room in first-class hotels, half-board throughout (vegetarian meals available), all transfers, portage and entrances, no Shabbat travel, deluxe air-conditioned coaches, with English-speaking guide, and English-speaking escort from Israel.

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Russian leader Boris Yeltsin, right, and French President Jacques Chirac meet with the press in France yesterday. (Reuters)

## Yeltsin: Russia will help guard Bosnia

PARIS (AP) — Wrapping up a two-day visit to France, Boris Yeltsin said yesterday that "of course" Russian troops would help enforce any Bosnian peace accord — but not under NATO command.

Yeltsin and French President Jacques Chirac, speaking at a joint news conference, each said their views converged on issues ranging from NATO's eastward expansion to the future force in Bosnia.

"Of course Russian troops will participate" in any multinational force in Bosnia, the Russian president said. "But not under a NATO command. There will be coordination (between Russian and Western alliance commanders) so that everything runs smoothly."

Chirac said Russia "obviously can't be absent from the system put in place to apply the peace plan."

"Which poses a problem of command. There must be an accord on command be-

tween NATO and the Russians," Chirac said. Yeltsin said he expected a compromise on Russian participation would be reached during his discussions next week in New York with President Clinton and other Western leaders.

Yeltsin and Chirac were both flying later yesterday to New York, where they will take part in ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

The two leaders gave no details on what Chirac called their "grand convergence" of opinions on European security and Bosnia, saying they would first consult with other leaders before announcing their views.

On NATO, Chirac said he understood eastern European countries' desire to "anchor themselves" to NATO, but that he also understands Moscow's wariness of NATO's eastward expansion.

"Our opinions converge on this question,"

Yeltsin added. "He (Chirac) and I must try to convince other leaders, especially Bill Clinton."

Meanwhile, rescuers yesterday found 10 survivors from a military helicopter that crashed two days earlier on a remote island in the Russian Arctic.

Eight bodies were found, said Alexander Suvorov, a spokesman for the Russian Federal Border Service which owned the chopper. He said three of the survivors were badly injured.

After two days of an intensive search for the vanished chopper, a rescue helicopter spotted tents on Bolshevik Island off Russia's far northern coast.

The Mi-26 helicopter was carrying 12 border guards and a crew of six when it went missing. It disappeared on a flight from Cape Chelyuskin, continental Russia's northernmost point, to Severnaya Zemlya, a group of islands in the Arctic.

## Bosnia truce holding, sides swap prisoners

A local truce was reported to be holding in volatile northwest Bosnia yesterday and the warring parties exchanged prisoners in signs of progress towards ending the war.

Fighting has continued in the northwest since a Bosnia-wide ceasefire came into force nine days ago. The truce was aimed at calming the situation on the ground in preparation for peace talks scheduled to open in the United States on October 31.

"No significant military actions were detected by us in the northwest yesterday, just a few explosions," UN spokeswoman Major Miriam Sokacki said.

Referring to a meeting at northwest front-lines at which Serb, Croat and Moslem commanders agreed to respect the ceasefire, spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Chris Vernon said: "The general atmosphere of these meetings was one of cooperation and willingness to make the ceasefire work."

In a further sign of progress towards peace, the Bosnian government and its separatist Serb forces exchanged 20 prisoners yesterday, including two Turkish journalists and three foreign aid workers held by the Serbs.

Among those freed in the

News agencies

SARAJEVO

exchange, the first since the ceasefire came into effect on October 12, was Sarajevo poet Vladimir Srebok, a Serb critic of the war who was seized by Serb soldiers when he ventured outside the city on a freelance peace mission in 1992.

A delegate from the International Commission of the Red Cross, which helped organize the swap, said it was not known how many others were being held. "There's going to be a lot of these over the next few weeks — both prisoners and bodies."

President Clinton told Congress Friday he will ask for a vote of support for sending US troops to Bosnia as part of a NATO peacekeeping force.

Sen. Bob Dole urged the president to deny a visa to Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. "Milosevic is no peacemaker," said the Kansas Republican.

In a letter to Sen. Robert C. Byrd, Clinton made it clear he'd welcome a congressional endorsement but wasn't backing away from the position that presidents can commit troops without first getting permission from Congress.

"While maintaining the constitutional authorities of the presidency, I would welcome, encourage and, at the appropriate time request an expression of support by the Congress," Clinton wrote.

Such an expression would require a congressional resolution adopted by both houses.

Clinton said at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton Ohio it would be premature for Congress to act before the peace due to begin at the end of the month.

An advocate of seeking congressional endorsement for US participation in a peacekeeping force, Byrd concurred in Clinton's request to hold off any action.

"It would be most unfortunate if the peace process were to be derailed by premature action here," he told the Senate.

Clinton said congressional support "would be in the national interest" and he pledged to continue consulting with Congress "so that we secure the widest support possible for peace."

Another sign of a return to normalcy in Sarajevo after 42 months of siege was the reopening of the city's main outdoor market, scene of two massacres that changed the war's course.

## Mandela denies nuclear capability

PRETORIA (Reuters) — President Nelson Mandela yesterday shrugged off claims in a book by two journalists that South African right-wingers could have access to nuclear weapons.

"We have been assured by those who are connected with this (nuclear) program that that program was discontinued, that everything was dismantled and we have not the capability now for making weapons of destruction," Mandela said at Waterkloof air base.

He was speaking before leaving for New York where he will attend UN celebrations.

"Those like Deputy President (F.W.) de Klerk who were close to the program have also given me assurances, which I have no reason to disbelieve, that the program was discontinued."

"They have denied expressly that some of these materials are in the hands of the right wing. "We will not investigate wild and unsubstantiated allegations," Mandela said.

## Trade chiefs wrap up meeting

HARROGATE (Reuters) — Trade chiefs from the leading trade powers ended two days of talks charting the future of world trade rules in England's sixteenth century Ripley Castle yesterday.

"We have had detailed and useful informal talks over two days on the full range of current issues confronting us," EU Trade Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan told a closing news conference.

Brittan hosted the Quadrilateral meeting, a group which comprises Canada, the EU, Japan and the United States, to consider China's possible accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), future WTO policies and rules for regional trade blocs.

China's WTO membership, which has hung in the air since January when it was denied founder-member status in the world's new trade club, looked no closer to becoming reality yesterday.

"We are agreed that China joining the WTO is an important objective...but we think it has to be done on the basis of acceptance of the fundamental rules of the WTO," Brittan said.

US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor put it somewhat more bluntly in an earlier, private briefing, saying none of the major trade powers was impressed by China's offers to date.

Away from discussions on China, the Quad ministers looked at ways to alleviate the dangers of tension between the WTO's multilateral trade rules and those springing up in regional blocs.

The main issue is how to balance the two processes and to ensure that the gathering momentum towards regional accords is contained in a way which allows those left outside to scrutinize the deals.

"As concerns regional trade initiatives, we have agreed that greater transparency is desirable, and that it would be helpful to seek agreement in WTO to create a single committee that could enable WTO to devote more attention to the review work," Brittan said.

## Riots erupt in four US federal prisons

GREENVILLE, Illinois (AP) — After inmates set fires, threw baseball bats and broke windows at four federal prisons, guards regained a "tenuous" control yesterday amid a Justice Department lockdown at its prisons nationwide.

Among the most seriously injured were those treated for smoke inhalation and a prison staff member who was burned with scalding liquid.

The sporadic violence, some of it apparently triggered by Congress' refusal to reduce penalties for crack cocaine convictions, began late Thursday at the federal prison in Talladega, Alabama. It spread Friday to those in Memphis, Tennessee, Allenwood, Pennsylvania, and to the town of Greenville 65 km east of St. Louis, where guards were still trying to get inmates back to their cells.

"They've still got some problems," Greenville police Chief John King said early yesterday. "They don't have the control that they

desire of a particular cell block."

The mayhem at the medium-security prison in Greenville began when some inmates refused to return to their cells as part of the national lockdown, and took over a housing unit. Some prison employees built a barricade to protect themselves and had to be rescued by a tactical response team, authorities said.

One prison staff member was admitted to the hospital, and at least 13 other people suffered mostly minor injuries. Utlat Memorial Hospital would not disclose the nature or extent of the prison worker's injuries.

In Memphis, crews were still dousing what's left of a series of fires set during a disturbance that at one point had more than 800 inmates roaming unsecured through a recreation yard.

Prison spokeswoman Francine Branch said the melee might have started when a group of inmates began breaking windows. "We don't know what kicked it off," she said.

The prisoners moved to the recreation yard

and were joined by other inmates. During this time, several fires were set in three of the prison's housing units. At least 50 people were treated for smoke inhalation and other injuries.

In Pennsylvania, about 150 inmates went on an hourlong rampage Friday in a dining hall of a medium-security prison, pulling fire alarms and breaking windows, the prison said in a statement. A staff member was burned when a hot liquid was thrown in her face. Her condition was not available.

Local television and radio stations reported the disturbances may have been linked to the congressional vote not to reduce the penalty for crack cocaine convictions.

Two people who were trapped inside during the trouble Thursday night at the federal prison in Talladega, Ala., also said that was the reason for that disturbance. Thirteen people were hurt and inmates caused \$1 million in damage by setting fires and smashing windows.

BRUSSELS (AP) — NATO was looking for a new boss to face some delicate decisions after Secretary General Willy Claes resigned in a corruption scandal in his native Belgium.

Claes' resignation threw the Western military alliance into a leadership crisis as it prepares for a major military mission to Bosnia and possible NATO expansion into Eastern Europe.

Claes, NATO's third top executive in just 13 months, failed to persuade Belgium's parliament on Thursday to preserve his immunity from prosecution. He will face charges of bribery, forgery and abuse of office in connection with a helicopter contract awarded during his tenure as Belgian economy minister in 1988.

"Following the vote in the Belgian Parliament, I have decided, with great regret, to resign," Claes said at NATO headquarters.

He said there was no pressure from NATO's member countries to resign, but that he told several members of the policy-making North Atlantic Council that if Parliament voted against him he would resign immediately.

Claes said he was innocent of the charges and called them "a personal tragedy."

Prosecutors allege Claes, as economics minister, knew his Socialist Party accepted a \$1.72 million bribe in 1988 from Italian aircraft manufacturer Agusta SpA to win a \$330 million contract to build 48 army helicopters.

## West's stepdaughter says father beat, molested her

WINCHESTER (Reuters) — Suspected serial killer Rosemary West laughed as her husband Fred smashed a steel-capped boot into the face of the daughter who adored him, an English court heard on Friday.

"That'll teach you to be so cocky," West was said to have sneered as her stepdaughter Anne-Marie, who intervened to stand up for her in a row, was kicked bleeding on the ground.

Anne-Marie Davis, who says she was also sexually abused as a child, told a court trying her stepmother for 10 murders that she was a daddy's girl until Rose drove a wedge between them.

"When I was very young I always used to tell my dad that one day I would marry him," she told the court in Winchester in a slow, hushed voice.

She glanced towards the dock where her stepmother sat staring and expressionless, but did not cry as she had when giving testimony of harrowing sexual abuse.

"I did love my father, (but) I would have done anything for both Rose and my father," she said.

Fred, found dead in prison this year, was jointly charged with Rose, now 41, of killing seven young women who prosecutors say were bound and gagged and kept alive for sexual torment.

Their bodies were unearthed last year below the family home at 25 Cromwell Street, in Gloucester, where they had lain for between seven and 21 years.

They were also accused of killing a lodger, Anne-Marie's sister Charmaine and Rose's first-born, Heather.

In police interviews read out in court, Rose West varied her account of how her daughter vanished in 1987 aged 16.

She began by saying she never heard from her again, but later said Heather had telephoned.

West said Heather left home unseen but later said she gave her

some money to see her on her way. Neighbors had seen her go with a blonde woman in a Mini car and Heather had admitted to being a lesbian, she told police.

"I hope she's happy in the life she's presumably left home for," West said. But Heather's body was buried under the patio.

"I did not know about any of it," Davis, now 31, said of the murders allegedly carried out at the house.

Davis said Rose was the more violent towards her on a daily basis, scratching, pulling hair and punching her.

She said the kicking incident was the only time Fred hurt her except during sex — but this occurred often, with Rose participating, or alone with her builder father.

**The Ministry of Police**  
hereby announces the signing ceremony of a co-operation agreement between the Police Forces of

**JORDAN & ISRAEL**

The agreement will be signed by the Interior Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Mr. Saleh Hamad, and the Israeli Police Minister, Mr. Moshe Shahal

The ceremony will take place at "Beit Gabriel" at Zarnach on the banks of the Kinneret

On Tuesday Tishrei 30, 5756 (24th October, 1995) at 9:00 am

Invitations sent for the original date which was postponed, are valid for this date.

## MERCANTILE BANK OF ISRAEL LTD. NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE is hereby given of an extraordinary general meeting of the Company which will take place at the registered office of the Company, 24 Rothschild Boulevard, Tel Aviv, on:

**MONDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER, 1995, AT 09:00 A.M.**

On the agenda of the meeting will be the passing of a special resolution to amend the Articles of Association of the Company as follows:-

1. In Article number 1, at the end, the following definition will be added:-

"Senior officer" for the purposes of Articles 135, 136 and 137 of these Articles of Association, has the meaning stated in Chapter D 1 of the Companies Ordinance (New Version) 5743 (1983) for the term "nosei misra".

2. Article number 135, including the heading of the Article, shall be substituted and the following Articles shall come in its place:-

### Indemnity and Insurance

135 (a) Every employee or officer of the Company who is not a senior officer of the Company shall be indemnified out of the funds of the Company against all liability incurred by him as such employee or officer of the Company in defending any legal proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favor or in which he is acquitted, and the Company may indemnify him in respect of any financial obligation that may be imposed on him for the benefit of any other person in respect of acts committed by him in his capacity as an employee or officer of the Company.

(b) The Company shall indemnify any person who serves or at any time served on behalf of the Company or as its agent as a director of any other company in which the Company has an interest, for expenses incurred in any legal proceedings brought against him in connection with any act or omission in performing his functions as a director in such other company and for any amount which he is obligated to pay under any judgment given in such legal proceeding including under any compromise arrangement to which the Company agreed, unless the judicial authority in such proceeding finds that his said acts or omissions have not been performed in good faith. The Company is authorized to issue a letter of indemnity to each director in such other company, including a Director of the Company who serves as a director of such company, in such terms and in such form as shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

136 The Company may indemnify any senior officer of the Company to the extent permitted from time to time by law in respect of any one of the following:-

(1) Any financial obligation which may be imposed upon him for the benefit of any other person by a judgment, including a judgment given by compromise, or by an arbitration award confirmed by the court, in respect of any act committed by him in his capacity as a senior officer of the Company;

(2) Reasonable litigation expenses, including attorney's fees, which the senior officer may incur or be obligated to pay by the court, in a proceeding brought against him by the Company or by any person on his behalf, or in a criminal proceeding in which he is acquitted, in respect of any act committed by him in his capacity as a senior officer of the Company.

137 The Company may enter into a contract for the insurance of the liability, in whole or in part, of any of its senior officers to the extent permitted from time to time by law.

By order of the Board

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## Quebec separatists gaining momentum

OTTAWA (Reuters) - Most Canadians have long assumed Quebec would not dare split their country apart.

But as opinion polls show rising support for separatists, people are starting to question that traditional wisdom and wonder if it might not just happen.

Those campaigning to keep the country together brush aside the poll numbers and are confident when it actually comes to referendum day on Oct. 30, Quebecers will not risk the potential upheaval by a vote for sovereignty.

"We're on course, and we'll carry on the campaign the same way we've done," Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien said on Friday. "Quebecers will be in favor of remaining in Canada on Oct. 30."

The Angus Reid agency released to financial subscribers a poll showing 51 percent voting "Yes" to Quebec sovereignty and 49 percent "No" - with momentum for separation growing.

"The major finding of the poll was not so much the findings on the ballot question but the findings on who is gaining momentum on the campaign, and clearly the 'Yes' side is ahead on that right now," Angus Reid spokesman Darrell Bricker told the subscribers.

An increasing number of polls have shown the "Yes" side ahead before attributing the undecided voters - who are traditionally hesitant to go for separation. After such apportionment, the polls still show a very tight race.

"This is the first time that it's possible for the separatists to see a victory for the 'Yes' side," the group Leger & Leger said a week ago in announcing one such poll.

"Everything is possible. I wouldn't have said that two or three weeks ago, when I was sure the 'No' side would be the winner," said Claude Gauthier, vice president of the CROP pollsters. He added however: "With the figures that we have presently, I think personally the 'No' is (still) winning."

Just the thought of the breakup of Canada, and the possibility that Quebec might run off without paying as much of the federal debt as Ottawa thinks it owes, has sent the Canadian dollar and bonds lower in the past few days.

Most analysts attribute the separatist surge to the prominence in the campaign of Lucien Bouchard, the flamboyant leader who leads the Bloc Quebecois in the federal Parliament.

"The 'Yes' side is doing well. The 'No' campaign is sputtering," he said.



A Sri Lankan policeman watches an oil depot go up in flames yesterday after Tamil rebels blew it up. (Reuters)

## 66 killed in Sri Lanka massacre

COLOMBO (Reuters) - Tamil Tiger rebels shot and hacked 66 villagers to death in eastern Sri Lanka yesterday, the military and witnesses said.

They killed 31 men, women and children in one village, 19 in another and 16 in a third, military and civilian accounts said.

The attacks, all in the small hours of yesterday morning, could have been an effort to distract the army from a big push in the north against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who are fighting to carve a Tamil homeland out of majority Sinhalese Sri Lanka.

The Tigers also sparked a fire-fight in the capital, Colombo. In the north, troops killed 106 rebels for the loss six men the military said.

Infants were among 31 dead in the overnight attack on the mixed Sinhalese-Tamil village of Poona-lanuwa in Welikanda, between Polonnaruwa and Batticaloa, a doctor said.

Most of those killed were hacked to death, the doctor at Polonnaruwa Hospital told Reuters. Six other villagers were wounded. "Most had suffered sharp injuries," the doctor said. "Also there were some Tamils among the dead who had been shot."

The military named the village as Kolakanavadiya. In Mangalagama, in eastern Ampara, the Tigers used machetes and swords to kill 16 men, women and children and wound five others, a witness said from the hospital. The military confirmed the death toll.

The Tigers, also attacked the village of Padaviya, in the eastern Welioya district, killing 19, the military said.

Some of their victims had been raped, the National News Agency said.

The attacks occurred between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. yesterday. The villages lie in the border area between government and LTTE-

controlled territory.

In the capital, where a curfew was reimposed yesterday, LTTE cadres shot dead two civilians near a Colombo oil depot blown up by the rebels, witnesses said. The two were caught in crossfire. A third man was killed shortly afterwards by unidentified gunmen.

Scores of air force, army and police personnel cordoned off marshland near the Orugodawatte oil depot, searching for Tigers believed at large after the attacks.

Black smoke billowed over eastern Colombo for a second day yesterday as fires at Orugodawatte and nearby Kolonawwa continued to burn. About 90,000 tons of crude oil, 40,000 tonnes of diesel and 15,000 tonnes of kerosene, including aviation fuel, went up in flames, police said.

Six LTTE members had been arrested, police said. At least 25

people died, including Black Tiger suicide bombers, and 32 were wounded in the violence.

The Tigers, who in May hacked and shot to death 42 Sinhalese villagers in Kallarawa in the east, were feared ready to stage more suicide attacks in a bid to stall the army offensive in the Jaffna peninsula where the army advanced two km yesterday, security forces said.

"The terrorists have gone back to the era of attacking unarmed civilians to attract the attention of the security forces," the military said.

Media Minister Dharmasiri Senanayake said the attacks were aimed at making the armed forces pull out men from the north.

"These terrorist activities are intended to create communal conflicts leading to disrupt the economy and disturb the lives of the people," he said in a statement.

## Ivory Coast leaders trying to prevent election day bloodshed

ABIDJAN (Reuters) - President Henri Konan Bedie met leaders of Ivory Coast's main opposition parties yesterday in a last-ditch effort to prevent bloodshed during today's presidential election.

They followed unprecedented political violence, which has killed at least eight people, and an opposition pledge to disrupt polling.

The opposition leaders, who have denounced the election as rigged, refused all comment on the substance of the talks with Bedie, who has ordered the army to help protect voters.

But one opposition politician, Djany Kobina of the Rally of the Republicans, said the talks were expected to resume later.

Ivory Coast, the world's top cocoa producer, built a reputation for stability under founding father Felix Houphouet-Boigny from independence from France in 1960 to his death in 1993.

At least eight people died in unrest on October 2 and during fresh clashes on Monday and Tuesday.

Witnesses reported more unrest, saying protesters burned ballot boxes, a government office

and vehicles in the northern town of Odienne. Security forces ran out of teargas and fired at protesters, wounding about 10, one said.

Bedie, who took over under the constitution after Houphouet-Boigny died, wound up his campaign a day early to leave time for peace talks.

"I still hope unstintingly for peace signals from them. We hold out our hand to them unstintingly," he said in Yamoussoukro, birthplace of Houphouet-Boigny and spiritual home of his ruling Democratic

Party. He offered opposition leaders an olive branch in the form of experts to check electoral lists and urged them to contest general and municipal elections in November and December.

The elections are Ivory Coast's second multi-party polls. Revision of electoral lists is a key opposition demand.

Bedie noted that it was too late for the boycotting opposition to contest today's poll, but added: "There is no longer any justification for orchestrated clashes."

Kobina, Laurent Gbagbo, leading light in the campaign that brought multi-party politics to the West African country in 1990, and other leaders of a poll-boycotting Republican Front opposition alliance attended yesterday's talks.

Gbagbo's Ivorian Popular Front and its allies say Bedie has manipulated electoral rules.

## UN broke before birthday bash

LOUIS MEHLER  
UNITED NATIONS

FACING a financial crisis that threatens everything from internal reforms to peacekeeping, the United Nations this weekend begins hosting the largest gathering of world leaders in history.

Owed \$3 billion from members, the organization is out of money.

Even the \$1.4 million earmarked to protect and provide for the visiting world leaders, including President Clinton, Fidel Castro and Boris Yeltsin, is a strain on a budget that was exhausted months ago.

In all, presidents, prime ministers and senior officials of about 180 countries will speak before the General Assembly during the three-day session starting today.

They will be addressing an organization in crisis. Countries with peacekeepers in the field say they may have to withdraw their blue helmets if they aren't paid.

The United States is the biggest debtor at \$1.3 billion. The Americans have withheld payments to pressure the UN into reforms. But critics claim those very reforms are hamstringing for lack of money.

"The amount of management attention on balancing our cash position is tremendous and that

takes away from the reform process," said Joseph E. Connor, the undersecretary-general for administration and management.

US Ambassador Madeleine Albright yesterday called again for UN reforms.

"We cannot and will not ask our Congress or taxpayers to support levels of funding for the UN that do not reflect a high degree of fiscal discipline and restraint," Albright told a UN finance committee. "If the UN's first half century is not to be its last, we must create the UN anew."

The crunch has left the UN unable to pay the \$10 million severance package for 135 employees who have agreed to retire early. A management training program has also been delayed due to a lack of money.

To make ends meet, the United Nations has borrowed \$100 million from its peacekeeping fund, which is sharply depleted.

The United Nations owes some \$900 million to 80 countries for peacekeeping and many nations are saying they may not send troops to the next crisis point.

"Several countries have said they are approaching the point at which they will have to withdraw troops," Connor said.

## Nations still want to boost peacekeepers

WHILE Washington wants the United Nations to "say no" to more peacekeeping, other governments want to strengthen its hand despite its financial crisis.

**RAPID DEPLOYMENT FORCE:** The Netherlands suggests a permanent UN light infantry brigade ready for immediate deployment on orders of the Security Council. The 5,000 international volunteers would respond to emergencies and then pull out within three months, to be replaced by troops on loan from UN members.

**VANGUARD CONCEPT:** A Canadian study proposes a rapid deployment headquarters - a UN "cell" of 30 to 50 international military officers who could plan for contingencies and then deploy as command staff for up to 5,000 peacekeepers, who would be drawn from "high-readiness" units maintained by governments for possible UN deployment.

**DANISH BRIGADE:** Denmark last year took the lead on peacekeeping and organized the International Danish Brigade within its army, a 4,500-soldier quick-reaction force whose services are on standing offer to the United Nations. Danes have also offered peacekeeping training to other countries. (AP)

## Retired Chilean general agrees to go to jail

SANTIAGO (AP) - After months of defiance, the secret police chief under Chile's former military regime has left a naval hospital to begin a prison term for the 1976 assassination of a political opponent in Washington.

Retired Gen. Manuel Contreras' apparent acquiescence ends an uncertain period for Chile. Many saw his earlier vow not to spend "a single day in jail" as a sign that the army was still willing to defy Chile's 5-year-old civilian government.

The navy said in a statement the 66-year-old Contreras asked doctors at its hospital in southern Chile to release him so he could "abide by the court ruling."

He left the hospital in custody, but his whereabouts were not immediately clear. The navy re-

leased no details about his destination - expected to be the Punta de Peasco prison, built specifically for fallen officers like Contreras.

Justice Minister Soledad Alvear said an announcement on Contreras' location would be made "at the appropriate time." She said the secrecy in the operation was ordered for security reasons.

Orlando Letelier, who had been a Cabinet member and an envoy to Washington from the leftist government toppled by Gen. Augusto Pinochet in 1973, was killed on Sept. 21, 1976. A bomb blew up the car he was driving in downtown Washington, killing him and his American aide, Ronni Moffitt.

US investigators quickly traced the killing to DINA, the secret police led by Contreras.

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**Zubin Mehta, conductor**  
**Radu Lupu, pianist**

Programme:  
1st Symphony no. 5  
Schumann: Piano concerto  
Stravinsky: The Rite of Spring

22.10.95 Concert no. 1

**Zubin Mehta, conductor**  
**Moshe Beckler, narrator**

**The Maestro's Young Guests**  
Arielle Gili, violinist  
Elinoz Yeger, bassoonist  
Ehud Weber, cellist

Programme:  
Works by Beethoven, Lalo,  
Verdi

23.10.95 Concert no. 2  
Youth Concert no. 1



The State of Israel

## FLYING TOGETHER ON THE WINGS OF PEACE

To honor the first anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Today, Sunday, the 22nd of October, beginning at 10:45 a.m., there will take place

### A Joint Fly-Over of the Israel Air Force and the Royal Jordanian Air Force in the skies of Israel and Jordan

Helicopters and F-15 and F-16 planes of the Israel Air Force and F-1 and F-5 planes of the Jordanian Air Force will fly in joint formation, according to the following schedule (all times are approximate):

Three Israeli and Jordanian "Black Hawk" and "Super Puma" helicopters will traverse the skies of Tel Aviv and Gush Dan and of Amman at approximately 11:00 a.m. carrying the flags of Israel and Jordan, and a banner with the words "Peace / Shalom."

- Due to limitations of fuel, the fly-over is unable to go south of the Dan region.
- In the event of unfavorable weather conditions, the fly-over will be postponed.

Tiberias	10:40
Karmiel	10:42
Akko	10:46
Haifa	10:47
Zikhron Yaakov	10:52
Hadera	10:54
Netanya	10:56
Tel Aviv	11:00
Bat Yam	11:01
Ben-Gurion Air Port	11:04
Jerusalem	11:06
Amman	11:17

**Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra I.B.A.**  
Music Director: David Shallon 1995-96 Season

### "THE POPULAR SUBSCRIPTION" Concert No. 1

Wed, 25.10 Series D • Thur, 26.10 Series E

David Shallon, Conductor

Olli Mustonen (Piano) Noam Buchman (Flute)

Prokofiev Overture on Jewish Themes

Mozart Piano Concerto in A Major, K. 488

Gronich "Flute 3000" for Flute and Orchestra / Premiere

Tchaikovsky Suite from "The Nutcracker"

### PIANO RECITAL - OLLI MUSTONEN

Saturday, 28.10 at 8.30 p.m.

Beethoven Bagatelles, Opus 126

Debussy Suite Bergamasque

Beethoven Variations on a Theme by Diabelli

### "CHILDREN and FAMILY" Concert No. 1

Tue, 7.11 Series A at 5:00pm

Wed, 8.11 Series B at 3:30pm Series C at 5:30pm

"MUSICAL OLYMPICS" - The Concerto

Conducted and presented by RASHI LEVAT

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## Quake shakes central Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A strong earthquake rocked central Mexico Friday night, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

The quake started at 8:41 p.m. and was felt for about a minute. Bruce Presgrave of the US National Earthquake Information Center estimated it was "at least" magnitude 6.

He said it appears to have been centered in Chiapas, Mexico's poorest and southernmost state, which borders Guatemala.

The quake was felt throughout most of Mexico City, about 640 km northwest, but no major damage was seen to buildings downtown. There was little traffic on the streets.

It was felt from southern Oaxaca state on the Pacific Coast north to Xalapa, the capital of Veracruz state on the Gulf coast.

A reporter from the privately owned Televisa network, calling from Oaxaca City said the Red Cross and other agencies had no immediate reports of major damage or casualties there.

It also was felt in Villa Hermosa, the capital of Tabasco state on the Gulf Coast.



## Wingate starts mobile fitness lab

POST HEALTH REPORTER

If you can't get to the Wingate Institute for a physical fitness checkup, the institute will come to you. Starting in December, a mobile medical and fitness-testing laboratory will be traveling throughout the country and carrying out tests at schools, workplaces and sports facilities.

The unit, costing over \$150,000 and donated by 83-year-old San Diego philanthropist Emanuel Fisher, is the first of its kind, according to Dr. Yoni Yaron, head of the sports medicine department at the Wingate physical education center near Netanya.

The white-painted van - with about 14 square meters of floor space - has treadmills, an exercise bicycle and monitoring equipment to determine if people are fit. Such testing is important

not only for amateur and professional sportsmen of all ages, but also for those with physically stressful jobs and employers who want to ensure that their workers don't suffer from a condition that could prove dangerous.

Yaron says the unit will be manned by a doctor, a driver and three technicians. When customers ask for lectures on diet and physical fitness, additional Wingate staffers will be added. The air-conditioned mobile unit will offer 45-minute tests and produce written results on the spot. It is geared for dealing with groups, and will charge between NIS 60 and NIS 140 per individual, depending on the size of the group.

For more information about the mobile unit, call (09) 639407.

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

ISRAEL is probably at least two decades behind the US in considering the rights and privileges of hospital patients and regarding them as consumers of medical services rather than merely as someone to be treated.

Until recently, health funds here tended to refer their members to the hospitals the insurers chose, instead of letting the patient and the physician make this decision.

Patients who complained about dirty bathrooms and unappetizing food were regarded as spoiled, and they were expected to do what they were told without questioning doctors or nurses.

But things are changing. The current process of turning public hospitals into self-sustained entities is forcing hospital administrators to seek patient approval. Patients are more aware of their rights and more eager to have a voice in decisions relating to their treatment.

A survey conducted by the JDC-Brookdale Institute in Jerusalem of nearly 3,500 recently discharged patients holds up a mirror to 10 general hospitals.

The just-published research was carried out two years ago by Dan Yuval, Bruce Rosen, David Chinitz and Oren Kugelmann. In the coming weeks, they will begin a follow-up study to see what changes have taken place in the hospitals since then as a result of the national health insurance system, increased competition and other major shifts in health policies.

The 19-page paper should be studied carefully by Health Ministry decision makers, health fund administrators and - of course - hospital directors.

The researchers chose 10 government and Kupat Holim Chalit hospitals throughout the country (but not in Jerusalem, where hospitals are owned and run by voluntary organizations).

The institutions were Ichilov in Tel Aviv, Assaf Harod in Tzrifin, Beilinson in Petah Tikva, Barzilai in Ashdod, Nahariya Hospital, Meir in Kfar Sava, Kaplan in Rehovot and Rambam, Bnai Zion and Carmel hospitals in Haifa. These comprise 47% of

## Study: Hospitals have far to go in considering rights of patients



A surprising 37% of patients said they had 'little or no help' from hospital staffers. (Debbi Cooper)

all the general hospital beds in the country.

Some 350 patients from each hospital who were hospitalized for at least two days received a detailed questionnaire in the mail not long after they were discharged.

Each envelope contained a letter from the hospital director stressing the importance of participating in the survey, and staff members called patients to encourage their return. In the final count, 81% of those queried responded to the survey. The participants included Arabic- and Russian-speaking patients, as well as Hebrew speakers.

The patients spent an average of six days in the hospital, and half of them were in "serious or very serious" condition upon admission. Sixty percent of those surveyed were women, 45% were over the age of 60 and 86% were Jewish.

The survey indicates that patients are often involved in the process of deciding where they want to be hospitalized; this is

especially true of pregnant women going to the hospital to deliver their babies and less so of patients treated in surgical and internal-medicine departments.

The researchers found that health funds, family doctors and patients are all involved in the process of choosing a hospital. Patients were most interested in the quality of nursing care, the hospital's medical reputation and the reputation of the relevant department.

One in seven patients had to wait more than three months to be hospitalized, while nearly a quarter said the hospital postponed their planned date of admission.

According to US patient surveys, many people are dissatisfied by the lack of a senior doctor in charge who is accessible and willing to talk about their case. The Brookdale researchers found that the problem is even more acute here, because the patient's personal doctor doesn't continue to treat him in the hospital and because there is no tradition of

the patient choosing which hospital doctor will take care of him.

There were wide variations in the quality of physical facilities in the hospitals. Thirteen percent of patients spent considerable time lying in corridors instead of the ward, while 24% reported being one of at least five in a room. Conditions were generally least comfortable in internal-medicine departments, which tend to treat more elderly, chronically ill patients.

Only 43% of the respondents said they received much help from hospital staffers, while 20% complained about only moderate help and a surprising 37% of "little or no help."

At the same time, a little over half said they received a great degree of help from family or friends. Although medical treatment is supposedly free, 14% of patients said they spent money for medical equipment, medications and treatments not covered by the health funds, a private nurse or "jumping the queue" (black medicine). About one in

10 was asked to bring medications or equipment from home.

Eighteen percent said they were discharged "too early" (compared to only 11% in a comparable survey of patients in US hospitals). Only 4% in the Brookdale survey said they spent more time than necessary in the hospital. Patients in internal-medicine departments and those who underwent surgery were more likely to think they were sent home prematurely.

Half of all patients said they returned to "normal functioning" after recovery, while nearly 60% said the state of their health significantly improved as a result of hospitalization.

Over 70% of the patients said they would recommend the hospital to others and were satisfied or very satisfied with their stay (compared to 80% in an equivalent survey in the US), but there was a 28% gap between the best hospitals and the worst.

Russian immigrants were more pleased on average than the veteran Israeli population, and Arabs were as pleased as Jews, except for Arab women in obstetrics/gynecology departments, who were less satisfied.

Asked to grade hospital services on a scale of one to five, patients were most happy with medical and nursing care, and least satisfied with food, parking, cleanliness and other "hotel" services. Many patients complained about having little to keep them busy in their free time.

The Brookdale research team provided each of the 10 participating hospitals with a detailed report of their own institution that compares them with the other nine. They have also held meetings with the managements of the hospitals to help them identify problem areas, and the findings have been presented at a special seminar organized by the Health Ministry.

The survey points up the need to keep the finger on the pulse of the public hospitals over the coming months and years to see whether patient care improves or suffers under tightened budgets of health funds and major reorganizations being carried out in the health system.

## Post-surgery chill normal

Rx FOR READERS

POST HEALTH REPORTER

I had abdominal surgery and shivered uncontrollably after coming out of the anesthetic, even though it was warm in the recovery room. Is this normal? What causes it? T.C., Ashdod.

Prof. Shmuel Cotev, director of anesthesiology at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, replies:

Surgery, especially major operations with a long period under anesthesia, often brings down the core temperature of the body, that is, not only the skin temperature but that inside the body. This is caused by loss of control by the section of the brain responsible for temperature regulation. This may be the cause of your shivering. When patients shiver after an operation, we usually cover them with extra blankets.

Another explanation may be that certain volatile anesthetics can cause shaking even if the core temperature has not fallen. But most people who undergo surgery are not aware of this shaking, because it occurs during the first 20 minutes after surgery when they are not fully conscious. A third possibility is that you may have received some local or regional anesthetic in addition to the general anesthetic. Some of these have some toxicity and can cause shivering.

Does mineral water from the Golan Heights or abroad have any health benefits? Some claim to lower high blood pressure, to have dietary benefits and to be good for your skin. M.B., Ashkelon.

Olga Ruz, chief dietician at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, replies: Mineral water may be tastier, because it is not chlorinated, but we know of no health benefits such as those you mentioned.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page.

Write Rx For Readers, c/o Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, or fax 02-389527, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.



Travelers are advised to drink frequently, refrain from alcohol and smoking, remove tight clothing and walk through the aisles.

## Move around in plane to avoid blood clots

HEALTH SCAN

POST HEALTH REPORTER

FASTEN your seatbelts when your plane takes off, but in the air you are advised to move around to reduce the risk of thromboembolic events - blood clots in the lungs, legs or other organs due to lack of movement for many hours.

Such "events" may even be life threatening.

This is the conclusion of Drs. Yair Levy, Jacob George and Yehuda Scheinfeld of Sheba Hospital's internal medicine department, who wrote their warning in the latest issue of the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*.

These incidents are rare, considering how many people fly today, but they still occur. The doctors report on two cases, one a 46-year-old man who developed chest pains and fever after a 10-hour flight and the other a 72-year-old man who suffered from swelling in his right thigh after 16 hours in the air.

Both were heavy smokers. Scans led to the discovery of clots, which were treated in time with drugs that "thin" the blood.

The authors call the phenomenon the "economy-class syndrome," as people with little leg space in a jet plane's less-expensive seats are more likely to suffer such "events" than passengers in roomy first-class seats.

They are not unique to air travel, having been reported during long-distance travel in cars and trains as well. Smoking, dehydration due to controlled low humid-

ity in the plane, and drinking alcohol can contribute to the development of clots in sedentary passengers.

They advise travelers to drink water or soft drinks frequently, refrain from alcohol consumption and smoking, remove tight clothing (including socks) and walk through the aisles when permitted. Some experts recommend that high-risk patients take aspirin to "thin" the blood.

MAN-MADE ENZYME FOR GAUCHER'S

A synthetic enzyme has been found as successful as the natural substance - extracted from placenta - in the treatment of Gaucher's disease.

The hereditary disorder, which affects Jews and others, causes faulty processing of fat in the body and produces fragile bones and disorders of the liver, spleen and bone marrow.

For several years, patients have been treated with Ceredase, a very expensive drug containing the natural enzyme. But scientists worked hard to develop a genetically engineered form of the enzyme, glucosyl bromide, to eliminate the small risk that an unidentified virus from the drug might infect the recipient.

In addition, the natural en-

zyme has to be given every few days to be most effective, while the synthetic form need be administered only once a fortnight.

Dr. Arie Zimran, head of the Gaucher's disease unit at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, recently reported in the British journal *The Lancet* that the synthetic enzyme is every bit as good as the natural substance.

He tried the genetically engineered drug on 10 of his Gaucher's patients, while others participated in clinical trials at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York and the US National Institutes of Health in Maryland.

All the 10 patients who took the synthetic enzyme showed beneficial shrinkage of the spleen and liver and an increase in hemoglobin and the number of red blood cells.

No side effects or complications of any kind were noted. Half of them underwent the treatment three times a week, while the others received the same dose once in two weeks.

Results in both groups were equally positive, Zimran reported. He also found that giving a quarter of the dose used in the US studies was as effective as the much-larger dose. Although costs were reduced, they remain very high.

The synthetic form has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration and by the Health Ministry for treatment of Gaucher's patients.

## WHO report shows good quality of life here

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

STEP on top of the 537-page volume, *Concern for Europe's Tomorrow*, for a macrocosmic view of the health problems facing the 50 countries that are members of the World Health Organization's European region. From this vantage point, the health and quality of life of Israelis look pretty good.

The massive volume, full of statistics and graphs comparing the member states, has just been published by the WHO region to sum up the threats to health and environment as we enter the 21st century. During last month's regional annual meeting in Jerusalem, regional director Dr. J.E. Asvall hailed the volume as a giant undertaking and the first of its kind. One would hope that our own decision makers, from the health and environment ministers on down, will at least skim the book, even though it is in English.

Israel has for some time been a member of the WHO's European region, after abandoning the Eastern Mediterranean region due to prolonged hostility from its Middle Eastern neighbors. The peace agreement with Jordan and the Palestinians has not led to any decision to leave the European region, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh said during the annual meeting. Because it is an industrialized, developed country, Israel has more in common with the countries of Western Europe, but Sneh said we nevertheless plan to carry out joint health projects with our neighbors in this region.

The European region has changed dramatically during the past five years. The collapse of the Soviet Union exposed the Communist giant's neglect of medical and environmental conditions in Russia and especially in its backward republics. These now-independent countries are all separate entities, greatly increasing the region's membership rolls. Czechoslovakia split into two countries and West and East Germany included into one. Poland, Romania and other Eastern European countries also became free nations with backward social and health services. These "coun-

tries in transition" (as they are called in the volume) comprise fully half of the 850 million people living in the European region today.

Money for the region's health services is so tight that WHO director-general Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima asked the wealthy member states to make a voluntary contribution in addition to their national WHO dues.

The volume is an encyclopedic repository of data and policy-making procedures on a large variety of subjects: water supply and quality; demographics; economics; air pollution; life expectancy and causes of death; exposure to chemicals; contamination of food and drink; solid waste disposal; radiation; occupational health; housing and indoor and urban environments; accidents; and even noise pollution.

Some of the statistics are meaningless and unexplained, such as the fact that Israel has by far the lowest percentage of centrally heated apartments in the area (this is, of course, due to the warm climate and the fact that individual heating is regarded as more efficient and convenient than central heating). However, these are a tiny minority.

With a per-capita gross national product of \$11,950 (in 1991), Israel is among the "high-income countries" and way ahead of the former Soviet republics, with per-capita GNP of around \$1,000 to \$2,400. But we're still far from the likes of Iceland (\$23,170), Sweden (\$25,110) or Switzerland (\$33,610).

As far as urbanization goes, over 90% of our population lives in non-agricultural areas, which is at the top along with residents of the United Kingdom and Belgium. Albania, by comparison, is only 35% urbanized. Eighty percent of Israelis live in apartment blocks, at the top of the list and ahead of Switzerland (74%), Lithuania (70%) and way ahead of Norway (18%).

The Eastern European members have air polluted not only with industrial contaminants, but also with tobacco smoke: in Latvia, for example, nearly 70% of the men smoke, compared to

fewer than 40% of Israeli men. But we do have some reason to be ashamed of our infant mortality rate, which is below the middle of the list: 10 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to six in Iceland, seven in Germany, eight in Italy, 12 in Portugal, 22 in Russia and 23 in Romania. Israel has among the lowest suicide rates, which are positively exploding in countries like Hungary and Finland.

Although there is a specific reference to the water-supply deficit

in Israel, piped-in water is available to nearly everyone in urban and rural areas, compared to as low as 45% in Greece. In addition, the sewage system here is only a dream for residents of Turkey and the former Soviet republics. One surprising finding is that the annual production per capita of municipal waste is over 600 kilos here, way ahead of 23 other developed and developing countries (only 400 kilos in the UK and 260 kilos in Finland, for example).

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Ramat Gan, Jerusalem (91000)  
Telephone: 315666, Telex: 26121, Fax: 389237. CIRCULATION - 315610, Fax: 389017. ADVERTISING - 315608, 315637-40, Fax: 388408. TEL. AVIV: 5 Rehov Haemeg, P.O. Box 26398 (61283) Telephone: 6390333, Fax: 6390277. HAIFA: 20 Nordau, Haifa 61000, Telephone: 623166. Published daily, except Sunday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. as The Jerusalem Post 1995. Reproduction or storage in a retrieval system, or any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS

## Pre-Amman visions

ADDRESSING business leaders on Thursday in preparation for the Amman conference, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres painted an enticing picture of peace and prosperity in the region. He seemed to take for granted that the realization of his dream - a New Middle East patterned after Benelux - is imminent, and that borders between Israel and its neighbors are close to becoming irrelevant. War is virtually unthinkable now that Israel has peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, Peres said. And Israel may want to compensate for its shrinking size by placing vital parts of its infrastructure - canals, railroad lines, highways - across its neighbors' borders. It is already planning to turn Taba, Eilat and Akaba into one free tourist zone, in which vacationers will move from one country to the other without border formalities. And discussions of a Dead Sea park and tourist hotels mutually run by Israel and Jordan are also under way.

Several Arab leaders, including President Hosni Mubarak, have warned that such visions tend to scare the Arab world, on whose development maps Israel's name has yet to appear. And US Ambassador Martin Indyk, aware of this, said on Thursday that Israel's role in the region's development must be balanced. "Israel's large and dynamic economy, advanced industries, and highly skilled work force are both attractive and intimidating to its Arab neighbors," he cautioned.

But Israelis have other worries, too. Those who are not quite convinced that utopia will arrive at the millennium may be less sanguine than Peres about such notions as a free tourist zone. They are concerned less about intimidating Israel's neighbors than about Palestinians, Iraqis, Libyans and Iranians who will be able to enter Jordan and then move freely into Israel through Eilat with no border inspection.

And even those who agree with Peres that

Egypt and Jordan will honor their peace treaties may find Israeli dependence on an infrastructure outside the state's borders less reassuring. There are, after all, other leaders in the neighborhood, whose capacity for being less reasonable than King Hussein and Mubarak is an established fact of life.

Above all, it is difficult not to wonder how the Arabs, and particularly the Palestinians, perceive Peres's vision. They may truly fear Israeli economic hegemony in the region. It would not be the first time that they believe their own propaganda.

But it is even more likely that Peres's grand gestures are perceived not as a victor's largesse but as the retreat of the weary. Commentator on Arab affairs Ehud Ya'ari, whose contacts in the Arab world are probably second to none, recently wrote in *The Jerusalem Report*, "Arabs detect a large degree of fatigue on our part, a strong desire among the Israeli middle class to quit the battle... So strong is the Israelis' desire to disengage from the conflict, in Arab eyes, that one Palestinian said in a private conversation, 'Israel is chasing herself out!'"

For years, Palestinian leaders have been telling American diplomats that by backing Israel the US is betting on the wrong horse. The Arabs are here to stay, they say, while Israel will be lucky if it lasts as long as the Crusaders' kingdom in the Middle Ages. Both Syrian dictator Hafez Assad and Yasser Arafat believe that "Israeli superiority is conjectural and temporal," as Ya'ari puts it. And Ya'ari - a certified dove - also believes that the best description of Arafat's attitude to the peace agreement was given by head of research of military intelligence, Brig-Gen Ya'akov Amidror, who has said, "to Arafat the peace agreement is *drek*."

It would tax the sanguinity of Voltaire's Dr. Pangloss to reconcile such an attitude with Peres's vision of a Middle Eastern Benelux.

## Nostalgia conquers vision

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev appears to be following in the footsteps of Mikhail Gorbachev as a man praised and admired abroad and treated with contempt at home. The contempt has obviously reached the top - President Boris Yeltsin first offhandedly told reporters he intended to fire Kozyrev, only to withdraw the threat just as casually the next day.

Now Yeltsin thinks Kozyrev needs a deputy to ease his burdens (not the least of which appears to be his boss). The whole episode was a humiliating slap for a man who has given Yeltsin unwavering loyalty since becoming foreign minister in the twilight of the Soviet Union in 1990, and it can only weaken his authority. (Some say Yeltsin has not forgiven him for privately opposing the war in Chechnya.)

Kozyrev backed Yeltsin in his controversial slashing of strategic weapons and built firm international relationships for the newborn Russian Federation, particularly with the United Nations and the Group of Seven industrialized nations. Despite the collapse of Russia's military machine and its dire economic and political problems, he has managed to keep and even to raise respect overseas for his troubled country.

Paradoxically, these very services in the interests of maintaining Russia's influence abroad have led to him being vilified at home as a weakening and a poodle of the West. In December 1992 he shocked a major international gathering in Stockholm with a fire-eating speech worthy of the Cold War, only to admit after-

wards that he did so only as an exercise in warning the West of the grave dangers of trying to bulldoze Russia too hastily into a market economy. His tactic has returned to haunt him, for his nationalistic countrymen wanted the confrontation to be true and the conciliation to be abandoned.

This is a grave mistake that in turn may haunt Russia itself, for Kozyrev is a 1990s realist and his pathways of moderation, cooperation, and friendship with the West are the only ones that will lead anywhere for Russians. In many ways, the nationalistic yearning of Russians for Soviet greatness mirrors that often heard in the United States for the good old American values of the 1950s. But it would appear that, unlike the mass of Americans, Russians still mistake nostalgia for policy. They have all too quickly forgotten that the "good old days" were once known as "these trying times."

If Yeltsin's erratic attempts to outflank the rabid nationalists (ironically now labeled rightists, rather than the unrepentant communists they are) continues, his countrymen may indeed move closer to their nostalgic yearnings. It will then be too late to remind them that, along with a national power that alarms the West, comes a state dictatorship that makes fear a part of their everyday lives. And if they think their present economic struggle is uncomfortable, they should ponder the cost of a resurgent military trying to catch up with the advanced West in a new arms race to some vague megalomaniac utopia that never existed and never will.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### MARCH OF FOLLY

Sir, - In his book, French diplomat and historian Jean-Pierre Valognes writes: "Islam cannot accept... success of those who do not share Islam's values. While appropriating to itself the heritage of the Christians, Islam has incarcerated them within the status of 'protected' minority. As to lay Arab nationalism, far from opening to the Christians the road to integration, it has added new restrictions on them - of an ethnic and cultural nature - over and above their old religious segregation which never ceased to exist."

"Will there still be Christians in

the Orient in the third millennium? Yes, no doubt, but they will no longer count for anything. Without the source of support which was available to them in the Lebanon, where they used to march with their heads held high, they will have no choice but to model themselves on the dominant values in order to survive, and will no longer act as Christians."

"One of the longest battles in history is about to be lost."

Perusing the book, I was reminded of a report of the Middle East Council of Churches, calling for action to promote Christian-Muslim

coexistence as a means of combating increasing emigration of Christians from the region. It should be noted in contrast that the Christian population of Israel has increased about fivefold since 1948.

In view of all this, one is at a loss to understand the policy of some western countries which seemingly prefer Arafat and his Islamic Jihad and Hamas friends to the Israelis as rulers of ancient Jerusalem. Am I mistaken, or are we witnessing here a new western March of Folly?

BEVERLY STEELE  
Jerusalem.

### UNSCOP

Sir, - "I was the first human being ever to see an international document specifically calling for the establishment of a Jewish state. It was September 1, 1947 in Geneva, when the UN Special Committee on Palestine handed me the report which subsequently secured great power recognition and Israeli implementation." Thus, Abba Eban in his article on October 13.

Really? The members of the UN Special Committee, the members of the subcommittees, the drafting staff, not to speak of the typists - all these were not human beings?

Haifa. CARL ALPERT

### THE REFUGEE PROBLEM

Sir, - Reading Mark Heller's recent article, "Daunting challenge of return," I was left wondering why you printed this without it even mentioning the Jewish refugees who were made to leave their homes in Arab countries penniless, both before and after 1948. In effect, a population exchange has taken place, initiated from both sides by Arab pressure.

What should have been stressed, to my mind, is the financial aspect - the value of the properties on both sides abandoned or sold below cost, as balanced between those in Pal-

estine having belonged to Arabs, and those in various Arab countries which had belonged to Jews.

The one-sided mention of various aspects of the Arab refugee problem only does not seem to advance matters at all. At the very least, you should have printed it under the heading "The Arab refugee problem," and it would be much more helpful if you could soon publish an article with this in mind - to balance things out.

Haifa. MAURICE A. HARTOG

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT!  
WILLY CLAES HAS TO  
RESIGN EVEN BEFORE  
HE IS INDICTED!

IF WE HAD THE SAME HABITS HERE,  
THERE WOULD BE NO GOVERNMENT,  
NO KNESSET, NO JEWISH AGENCY,  
NO NEWSPAPERS, NO NOTHING!



## A way out of crisis

ELIE REKHESS

THE Knesset election campaign in the Arab sector has already vigorously begun. While the Zionist parties seem relaxed and self-assured regarding their prospects of winning Arab votes, the non-Zionist, Arab-oriented camp is in turmoil.

Abdel Wahab Darawshe's Democratic Arab Party and the Communist-dominated Hadash are facing serious organizational and political challenges. The Israel-PLO agreements have shattered their ideological programs and blurred the differences between them.

The DAP and Hadash are struggling with leadership problems, personal rivalries, and lack of internal cohesion.

The present state of weakness and impotence of the Arab political system calls for the emergence of a new unifying force which could fill the political vacuum.

The Islamic Movement in Israel seems to have the potential to provide the necessary cohesive bond, but its internal divisions have led it to the decision to abstain from direct participation in the elections.

Another potential contender for the leadership role is Dr. Ahmed Tibi, who intends to establish a new Arab party. But his opponents doubt whether he can deliver the goods.

The controversial Tibi is a shrewd, experienced politician, a "media-magician" who has been given extensive exposure in the press, and on radio and TV. However, Arab commentators claim his heated debates on TV talk shows will have little effect on the voters.

Tibi wants to set up a comprehensive Arab list which will represent the Israeli Arabs' socio-economic, political, cultural, and religious traits. But this is not an easy task.

Israeli Arab society is deeply divided by endless controversies and rivalries. Tibi was counting on the full support of the Islamic Movement, but his association with the fundamentalist trend has alienated potential Christian and secular Muslim supporters.

The Islamists themselves are in disagreement over whether or not to cooperate with Tibi. Tibi is

backed by one Islamic faction, headed by Sheikh Abdallah Darwish - but a rival, much more radical group led by Sheikh Kamal Khazbi staunchly rejects him and accuses him of being a Palestinian Authority stooge, personally financed by Yasser Arafat. It is noteworthy that Tibi's projected party has not yet been formally founded. The delay may be tactical, but it may also reflect difficulties.

Tibi may have the charisma of a born leader, his opponents say, but he lacks the troops. Without an active membership running

Indeed, Palestinian loyalty isn't what it was. But massive support for Tibi's list by Chairman Arafat might be warmly welcomed by Israeli Arabs, and it would enhance his position.

One shouldn't, moreover, disregard the possibility that the Islamic Movement may, reverse its position regarding elections. And a decision by Hamas, for example, to join the election race in the West Bank and Gaza could persuade its Israeli counterpart to act similarly within the Green Line, a move which could improve Tibi's standing.

The threshold for the next Knesset elections stands at approximately 46,000 votes, presenting a considerable challenge to all Arab competitors. A fragmented and factionalized Arab electorate could result in the loss of tens of thousands of votes to lists unable to pass the threshold, and thus could prevent the Labor-led coalition from being re-elected. The threshold barrier could, therefore, bring strange bedfellows together.

It is rather far-fetched to believe that Tibi's list might merge with, say, Darawshe's. Yet, as election day draws nearer, and unless other secret deals get struck (rumor has it that Tibi negotiated with Meretz and, with Haim Ramon) Tibi may perform the unifying act. He would do so by creating a roof organization, in the form of a front or alliance, inviting the others to join as equal partners, but under his leadership.

Such an initiative would probably win the blessing of the PA, the Islamic Movement, and possibly also the Labor Party.

In the 1996 elections, more perhaps than anytime in the past, the Arab vote could determine which party forms the next government. The crisis of the Arab political system and the way it is resolved may thus have far-reaching, perhaps even dramatic, repercussions for the future of Israeli politics.

The writer is a senior research fellow at the Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, and a consultant for the Abraham Fund.

Can Ahmed Tibi prove the unifying force Israel's divided Arabs seek?

## PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



This is not a scene one sees every day: three Chinese Buddhist monks say their prayers as they take off on a bungee jump in Vancouver. (AP)

## POSTSCRIPTS

THIS THEY call art - a listing of exhibitions in *The New Yorker* included this:

"Joel-Peter Witkin - Horror has never been more seductive than it is in these sharp images of hideously mutilated corpses (real ones, from a morgue in Mexico City) that have been propped up in carefully art-directed pseudo-Victorian sets. It's hardly surprising that so many people loath Witkin's photographs - living creatures hate death. The work, however, has an essential property of great art: it astonishes."

A JUDGE threw out assault charges against a restaurant cook accused of lacing two policemen's eggs with hot-pepper sauce.

Michael Towne, 20, of Concord, New Hampshire, had been charged with simple assault after the state troopers complained that the Tabasco sauce made them sick. One trooper ate his entire meal; the other ate most of his.

The judge ruled that their consumption of their food amounted to consent "to the contact of the Tabasco with their palate." He also said simple assault requires physical contact and is not "based on such a subjective standard as an individual's tolerance for certain foods."

## Let's get serious

STEPHEN BLOCH

THE call came at twenty minutes to midnight.

"Mr. Bloch? This is the emergency ward at Hadassah Ein Kerem. Your wife has been involved in a serious car accident. It would be a good idea if you came over as soon as possible."

With those ghastly words running through my mind, I arranged for a neighbor to stay with my four sleeping children and took a taxi for the journey to the hospital, chilling for the utter uncertainty of its conclusion.

When I arrived at Ein Kerem, my wife lay unconscious, connected up to all sorts of drips and electronic equipment. She was receiving blood. First she was X-rayed from head to toe. Then came a CAT scan to check for brain damage, an ultra-sound examination of vital organs, and, fi-

My wife survived by a miracle. Many road accident victims aren't so lucky

nally, an exhaustive orthopedic examination to determine if there were skeletal, spinal and general bone fractures or disorders.

In all, the process took nearly four hours, by which time the doctors concurred that they had to operate to remove an irreparably damaged spleen which was causing internal bleeding, and piece together a liver which had been significantly damaged.

At 6:30 the next morning, I weakly returned home, thanking God for his abundant kindness.

For without exception - from the doctors to the ambulance driver, to the police rescue squad - all told me that a miracle had occurred. My wife would be completely well. They had all expected much, much worse.

These events would be unexceptionable, but for one telling point: They are the sort of thing experienced by countless people in this country every day of the year. It's time it stopped happening.

The details of my wife's crash typify the reasons behind Israel's disgraceful road carnage.

She had been driving in the middle of the city in Jerusalem at 9:30 p.m., and had apparently unwittingly driven through a stop sign. An Egged bus, driving way too fast and with no possible hope of stopping, plowed into the side of her car, bulldozing the car for 30 meters before finally slamming it into a tree. It took rescue workers nearly an hour to extricate my wife.

MY WIFE erred. But in 11 years of driving, she had never been found guilty of a single traffic violation. One mistake had nearly cost her her life.

Which of us hasn't inadvertently made an error of judgment on the road? We are only human. But all of us know the major hazard on roads in this country: the sheer speed at which motorists drive, particularly bus and truck drivers.

In the past year, a first cousin was hospitalized for three months after a head-on collision with an oil tanker which rammed her vehicle at speed; and the young children of two different friends were run over outside their homes by speeding drivers.

We will never entirely educate young children not to run across a road after a ball. But we can force vehicles to slow down, giving drivers more time, and minimizing the damage of impact.

In my home state of Victoria, the government finally put its foot down nearly 20 years ago. There, the dual killers were alcohol and speed. The drink-driving problem was addressed by massive education and advertising campaigns. The speed issue was tackled by an enormous investment in radar technology and intersection cameras. In suburban areas, road humps were introduced on a large scale.

Today, wherever you drive in Melbourne, and almost anywhere in the state, if you speed, you will be fined. Heavily. There's no way to avoid it.

Despite a vast increase in the number of vehicles on the road, the road toll has been more than halved.

The time has come for our government to stop playing around the edges.

Speed kills. Let's do something about it.

The writer, a former Australian, is an accountant.

הגדאמן הראשון



مكتبة الامم المتحدة

THE JERUSALEM POST

A review of commentary and humor from American Press Syndicates

# AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, October 22, 1995



## United we stand Bosnian crisis interrupts anniversary

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

The 50th anniversary of the United Nations's founding has come at an awkward time. The main purpose of the U.N., after all, is to keep the peace. And the U.N.'s most prominent current involvement is in Bosnia, where, notwithstanding some recent auspicious signs, peace has not generally been kept. Those of us with high hopes for the U.N. have some explaining to do.

The U.N.'s core peacekeeping doctrine is collective security, the idea that an attack on any member nation is an attack on all. In cases of trans-border aggression, the Security Council is supposed to authorize a concerted war against the aggressor.

Collective security didn't fail in Bosnia; it was never tried. Although Bosnian Serbs from the beginning got active support from Serbia, neither Boutros Boutros Ghali nor President Bush ever conceived the matter as trans-border aggression. And, though I've argued ad nauseum that Bush and Boutros Ghali should have defined the situation this way, I must admit that the premise of trans-border aggression would have been in some ways technical. The Bosnian conflict is largely a civil war, and the U.N. wasn't designed to stop civil wars. Indeed, the dirty little secret about the 1992 intervention in Somalia's civil war — another commonly cited U.N. "failure" — is that it had no firm legal basis in the U.N. charter.

Certainly we can blame Boutros Ghali (and Bush) for much of what happened in Somalia and Bosnia — and we can hope both events are now etched in the U.N.'s memory. (Lesson: don't place troops amid hostilities unless they're there to take sides, as U.N.-authorized NATO warplanes finally started quasi-doing in Bosnia.) But it's silly to act as if the Somali and Bosnian messes reveal inherent U.N. flaws. Derelict leadership makes any institution look bad.

If the U.N. isn't supposed to handle problems as diffusely messy as the Somali crisis, what is it supposed to handle? Oh, for example: If some Iraqi dictator invaded a dinky country, then the Security Council could authorize bombing his nation into rubble. U.N. critics love to

dismiss this American-led exercise of collective security as unilateralism in disguise. Well, first of all, tell that to the various non-American soldiers who died rolling back Iraqi aggression. Second, the U.N.'s imprimatur — the aura of international law and consensus — brought something raw unilateralism would have lacked: political cover for Saudi Arabia, which furnished us with bases in defiance of Arab opposition. For the great powers to thus use the U.N. as a tool to keep pipsqueak troublemakers in line is exactly what the U.N.'s designers, including FDR, had in mind.

**The U.N.'s core peacekeeping doctrine is collective security. Collective security didn't fail in Bosnia; it was never tried.**

Obviously, if 50 years from now the United States is still the only great power that stirs the U.N. to action, and the nation that always supplies the lion's share of the manpower and fire-

used to mean taking heavy casualties in wars that struck the public as remote to their vital interests. But, as both the Persian Gulf and Bosnian wars show, the west's technological hegemony now allows it to intervene by air with precision, power, and low risk of bodily harm. Indeed, if Bosnia were a simple case of trans-border aggression, and we simply wanted to keep up the air strikes until the Bosnians routed the Serbs, that would be easy in both military and domestic political terms.

There's no denying that the U.N. faces big problems. (1) National disintegration may now be a more common problem than trans-border aggression. (2) Though the great-power veto isn't as paralyzing as it was during the Cold War, it still means the U.N. won't act in all cases of trans-border aggression. (Ideally, any elevation of Germany and Japan to a permanent Security Council seat would entail changing the veto threshold from one permanent member out of five to two out of seven.)

So, OK: The U.N. can't cure all ills — can't even punish all acts of trans-border aggression. Sometimes, maybe often, we'll have to act without it. But I fail to see what's wrong with trying to help the U.N. evolve — using it wisely when it can help us and the world, and discouraging its unwise use (e.g., "peacekeeping" amid civil war).

With the end of the cold war and the coming of micro-electronic warfare, U.N.-mediated collective security is more plausible than ever before. Granted, that's not saying much. But it's something. Whether you want to build on it depends on your basic disposition. Do you like the idea of the U.N., the idea of the world's races and nations collaborating in the cause of peace and justice? Do you like this idea so much that you're willing to support a pale imitation of it, so long as progress is being made, however haltingly? Or is the idea of universal brotherhood, even in a rather legalistic and theoretical incarnation, just too hopelessly corny, too obviously at odds with human nature and world history? For some of us, that's part of the appeal.

Robert Wright is a senior editor of *The New Republic*.



power, then the idea of collective security will have failed to mature. But for now I'll settle for this remarkable first step: Since the cold war ended, there's been one clear-cut opportunity for collective security to work, and it did.

The end of the cold war coincides auspiciously with the era of microchip weaponry. For the great powers to play globo-cop via the U.N.

## The role of money in the Simpson case

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Among the most frequently voiced criticisms of the legal system generated by the Simpson verdict is that money determines the outcome of cases. There is, in fact, an important kernel of truth in this criticism, but it must be placed in its proper perspective.

There are several possible reference points against which the amount of money spent by the Simpson defense — which published reports have placed at below \$4 million — can be compared. The first, and the one most often mentioned, is the contrast with other less affluent defendants. Simpson spent many times more than the typical defendant even in capital cases. Indeed, most defendants facing the ultimate punishment are indigent and many states enforce severe limitations on the amount of money for which their court-appointed lawyers will be compensated. This does not mean that their appointed lawyers cannot spend as much money as they choose, but it will have to come from their own pockets. I know this from personal experience, since I litigated a death penalty case on behalf of two brothers for more than 10 years, and spent tens of thousands of dollars of my own money on their defense. Ultimately, the death sentence was reversed, but not without thousands of hours of uncompensated time from a team of volunteer lawyers and students. Few death row inmates have access to lawyers willing to spend their own time and money to save their lives. Most are relegated to a single, inexperienced lawyer, with no budget for investigation and a cap of several thousand dollars for the case.

This disparity is not fair! But the victim of this unfairness is the indigent defendant who is denied the resources to challenge the prosecution's case against him. The remedy is not to bring affluent defendants like O.J. Simpson down to the level of indigent defendants, by placing a spending cap on wealthy defendants as some have proposed. Indigent defendants would not benefit from a cap on wealthy defendants. Indeed, they, too, would be hurt, since the resources spent by wealthy defendants often help all defendants. For example, the challenges directed by the Simpson defense team against the ineptitude of the Los Angeles forensic labs will assist indigent defendants in making similar challenges.

This brings us to the second basis of comparison — between the resources available to affluent defendants like Simpson and the resources available to the prosecution. Here, there is absolutely no comparison. The prosecution always has more resources than the defense, even when the defendant is an O.J. Simpson, a Michael Milken or a Leona Helmsley.



In the Simpson case, the prosecution spent more than defense in absolute terms. The defense had about a dozen lawyers, while the prosecution used nearly 50. The defense had a handful of investigators, while the prosecution had access to the entire Los Angeles Police Department, the F.B.I., the Chicago police, and even Interpol. Beyond these material resources, the prosecution had the power to threaten some witnesses, to grant immunity to others and have the entire sovereignty of the state of California — including its tax base — behind it. Finally, the prosecution almost always has the judge on its side. No defendant, regardless of personal wealth, can compete with a government, its police and its prosecutors.

The real complaint implicit in much of the current criticism is that O.J. Simpson was one of those rare defendants who could challenge the prosecution's case on a relatively level playing field. Most citizens naturally root for the prosecution and want them to win, as they almost always do. Anything that assists a defendant in challenging the prosecution is unpopular. Anything with the word "prosecution," "victim," or "district attorney" is popular. It is no accident that being a district attorney is a stepping stone to higher political office. President Clinton, along with a significant percentage of senators, congressmen, governors and mayors, are former prosecutors. Name a former defense attorney in higher office today!

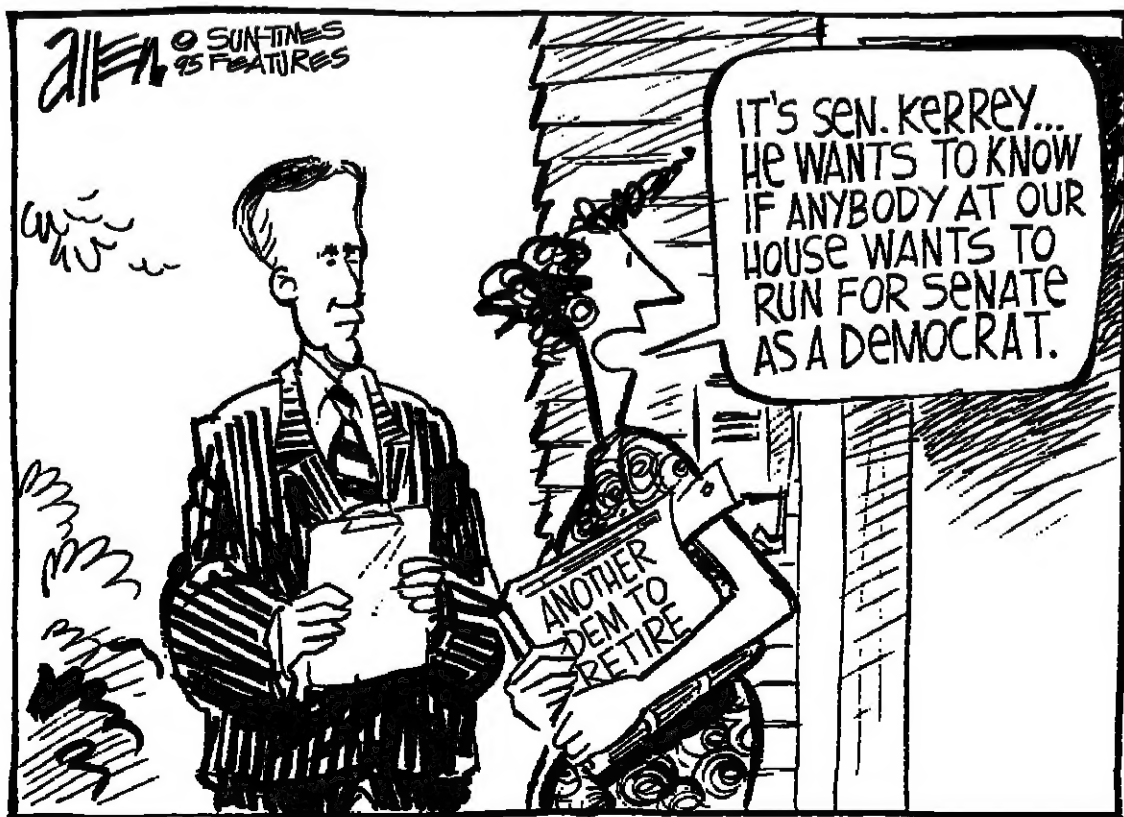
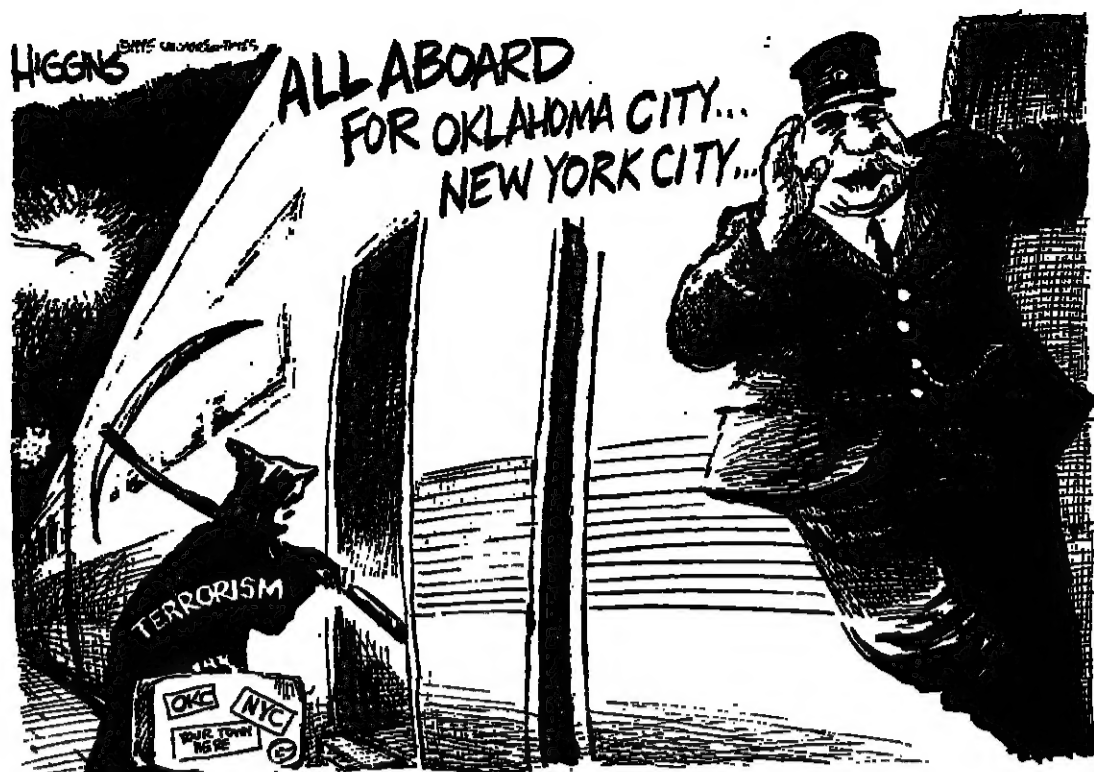
For our adversary system of justice to work, it requires a relatively level playing field, on which defendants can adequately challenge the prosecution's case. Without challenge, the police and prosecutors become lazy, and even corrupt. They become too used to winning, even in questionable cases. It is imperative, therefore, for the criminal justice system to provide more resources to indigent defendants, so that their lawyers can challenge the prosecution's case.

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest books are *"The Advocate's Devil"* (Warner Books) and *"The Abuse Excuse"* (Little, Brown & Company).

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# EDITORIAL CARTOONS



## Aid and abet

BY PETER BEINERT

Discouraged by the United Nations' irrelevance to the great military and political contests of its time, globalists often resort to a backup line of defense.

Since the U.N. is not sovereign and lacks the ability to tax and conscript, they say, it cannot act as a world policeman. But that's OK because its true value lies in the less glamorous sphere of "low politics," where it manifests global conscience by delivering humanitarian relief to desperate populations: the U.N. as world social worker. The argument is morally resonant, especially when made by the Third World governments whose populations the U.N. succors. Unfortunately, however, in responding to human catastrophes, the U.N. consistently proves less resourceful, less honest and less brave than private aid organizations and national relief agencies. And this, of course, is precisely why it wins praise from those Third World leaders responsible for such catastrophes, leaders whose hold on power depends precisely on foreign humanitarians being neither resourceful, nor honest nor brave. A few examples.

Ethiopia. Although Addis Ababa hosted one of the largest concentrations of permanent U.N. staff in Africa, the U.N. reacted slowly to the famine building in the Ethiopian countryside in the early 1980s. By 1982, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) such as World Vision Relief and Catholic Relief Services were sounding alarm bells - redirecting their own resources to Ethiopia and asking the U.S. government for more. By contrast, the U.N. Disaster Relief Organization and the U.N. International Children's Fund did not launch appeals until the spring of 1983, and bureaucratic infighting between key U.N. agencies such as the World Food Program and the Food and Agricultural Organization kept them from publishing a report on the situation until June 1984. Even then, the report gravely underestimated the extent of the crisis. In his book *Reluctant Aid or Aiding the Reluctant*, Steven Varnis estimates that the U.N. did not fully mobilize until November 1984, thereby missing the chance to stem the hunger.

But the real problem was less the U.N.'s failure to mobilize quickly than the nature of the mobilization itself. The Ethiopian government of Mengistu Haile Mariam faced a rebellion in the northern province of Tigray. But Mengistu denied both that his regime had lost control of the province and that its inhabitants faced starvation. As a result, the government distributed only 5 percent of its aid to a province that included one-third of those at risk from starvation.

Confronted with a host government unable and unwilling to grant them access to hundreds of thousands of its starving citizens, or even to acknowledge their existence, NGOs improvised. Norwegian Church Aid and other Protestant relief organizations, funded by the United States Agency for International Development began to secretly funnel food from the Sudan into rebel-held areas in the Ethiopian north. The effort was bold and ingenious. Never before had aid groups transported huge stores of food across a border without the knowledge of the host govern-

ment. The rebel welfare networks, which the NGOs assisted, constituted, in the words of the watchdog group African Rights, "the most effective relief programs ever mounted in a political emergency in Africa."

The U.N.'s response could not have been more different. Its Emergency Office for Ethiopia not only made no effort to reach the starving in rebel-held areas, it also legitimized Mengistu's claim that they did not exist. In August 1985, an Emergency Office report claimed that the government and the NGOs operating under its auspices were reaching 75 percent of the needy in Tigray. The actual figure was less than 15 percent. The office ignored repeated findings from journalists and independent monitors that as much as one-half to two-thirds of the food it gave the government for Tigray and the neighboring province of Eritrea was being diverted to the military. Says Alex de Waal, former co-director of Human Rights Watch-Africa: "It was criminal.... The U.N.'s role in that [cover-up] cost many lives and strengthened Mengistu. The government would have fallen years earlier without their help."

**The chief failing of the U.N. aid agencies is not that they are clumsy and lethargic but that they are dishonest.**

Somalia. In January 1991, when dictator Mohammed Siad Barr fled Mogadishu, leaving chaotic interclan warfare in his wake, the U.N. fled as well. For almost all of 1991, as the situation deteriorated and anarchy turned to mass starvation, the U.N. stayed away. Meanwhile five private relief agencies, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, remained in Mogadishu. In December, Pierre Glassmann, the African Delegate-General for the Red Cross, demanded to know, "How come unicef - Somalia has 13 people in Nairobi and no one in Somalia?" Marco Barsotti of the United Nations Development Program responded astoundingly, "In a situation of war, we don't operate."

NGOs, particularly the Red Cross, stepped into the breach. Rather than wasting time developing new relief strategies, the Red Cross built upon local knowledge, essentially merging with the indigenous Somali Red Crescent Society. When a Somali woman, Dhababo Isse, found that cooked food was less often stolen by local militias because it could not be easily sold, the Red Cross used her soup kitchens as its national model. And rather than letting food pile up in warehouses in Mogadishu and Kismayo, where it was subject to the whim of local warlords, the Red Cross spread its deliveries across every port, and even some beaches, in southern Somalia.

Even when the U.N. began operations, almost a year later, they quickly became a fiasco. The U.N.'s World Food Program let large stores of food sit in the Mogadishu port while it worked out a complex distribution system, only to find them repeatedly looted. The U.N. Development Program left \$68 million of its Somalia budget unspent for nine crucial months during 1992

because it lacked the signature of a nonexistent Somali official and the World Food Program bickered for three months over a contract to distribute food by truck to a Somali refugee camp in the Hararghe region of Ethiopia, while in the camp 50 refugees died per day. The contrast with the Red Cross - which in 1991 and 1992 fed roughly 1.5 million people, more than all the U.N. agencies combined - could not be sharper.

Rwanda. In Rwanda, the U.N. is not leaving people to starve as it did in Ethiopia and Somalia. Yet its policies there may be sowing the seeds of future humanitarian disaster even as they prevent one today. Stung by its peacekeepers' hasty exit in the midst of one of the century's worst genocides, the U.N. last year moved quickly to provide for the mass of Hutu refugees streaming out of Rwanda ahead of the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front. Yet even as the U.N. helped care for hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees, chronic interagency infighting stymied any attempt to identify and bring to justice those who had been responsible for the slaughter. One year later, the result is that former government militias, often armed and sometimes in uniform, control many U.N. refugee camps, terrorizing civilians and plotting to invade.

To be sure, private aid groups face the same excruciating dilemma of whether to deny food and medicine to hungry suspected murderers. But U.N. agencies have been the least willing to take steps to separate the ringleaders from those on whom they prey. Christine Umuotoni, Deputy Minister for Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Rwanda's new government, berates the U.N. for being "unwilling to take the steps necessary, through a special police force, to keep the killers away from the refugees." Janet Fleischmann of Human Rights Watch-Africa notes that, "The U.N. clearly took the lead in assisting these refugees who were in uniform and armed... and that helped them establish control over the refugee camps."

Meanwhile, the U.N. has spent less than half as much money on humanitarian and development efforts in devastated Rwanda itself as it has in the refugee camps. In July, Richard McCall, chief of staff, accused the U.N. of "doing a miserable job" of helping the new government. While U.N. officials rightly complain that Western donors have not given them adequate resources, additional money might do more harm than good. Indeed, dumping more money into militia-controlled refugee camps might only hasten the day when the perpetrators of Rwanda's 1994 genocide reclaim their country.

The chief failing of the U.N. aid agencies is not that they are clumsy and lethargic but that they are dishonest. To maintain the support of the continent's regimes, they cling to the fiction that Africans suffer not from murderous government but from murderous weather. And since humans are not responsible for Africa's ills, they can pretend that humanitarian work need not require political and moral confrontation. The U.N. should have abandoned this conceit a decade ago, after Ethiopia. Because it did not, Rwanda's current peace may prove little more than a lull between killing seasons.

Peter Beinert is an associate editor of *The New Republic*.  
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# RACE



WIT DAVIS 1995  
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

## GOP freshmen fight for true revolution

BY ROBERT NOVAK

Jeb Bush, who runs the Republican "Presidency III" straw vote in Florida on Nov. 18, raised anxiety among managers of Sen. Robert J. Dole's presidential campaign by suggesting that it would be a good idea if Gen. Colin Powell enters the competition.

Bush, son of former President George Bush and the Republican nominee for governor of Florida last year, said it would be "great for the Republican Party" if Powell becomes a candidate in time for the Florida vote. That would threaten Dole, who faces a serious bid by Sen. Phil Gramm in the Sunshine State.

A footnote: Word spread through Washington's political circles this week that Powell would announce for the Republican presidential nomination on Nov. 11, Veterans Day. When concerned Dole agents checked with Powell intimates, they were told there was absolutely nothing to the report.

### NIX NEW YORK

A substantial number of Republican senators, led by Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, have told the party's leadership that they cannot vote for the budget reconciliation bill if it contains the Medicaid formula favoring New York that was approved by the Senate Finance Committee.

In order to get the committee's approval for scaled-down Medicaid spending, the formula was rigged in favor of states represented by finance members - particularly Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York.

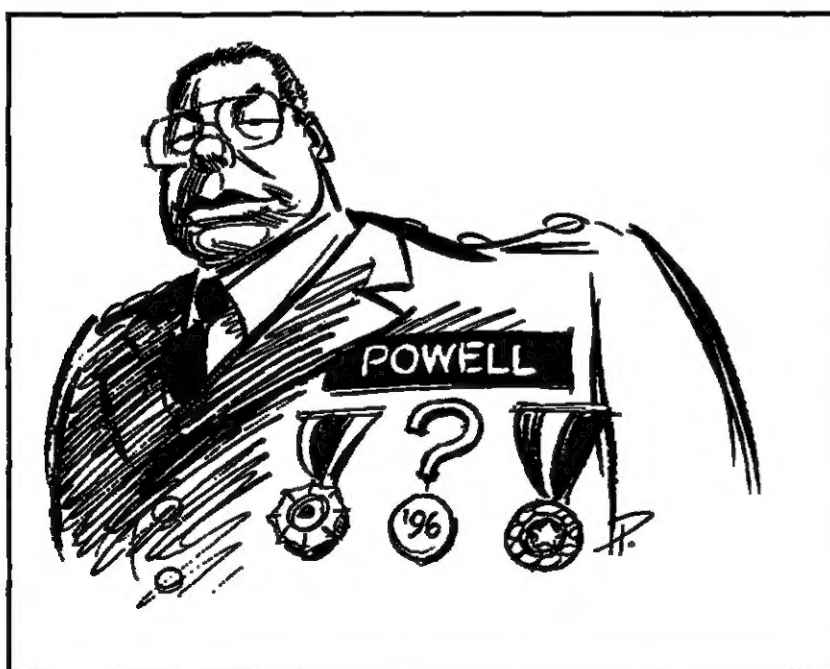
Dole, the Senate majority leader, is under pressure to even out the distribution of funds before the reconciliation bill is voted on by the Senate. But Dole owes much to D'Amato for his expected sweep of New York's big delegation to the Republican presidential nominating convention.

### DEMOCRATIC LAMENT

Democratic National Chair-man Donald Fowler has written the party's 50 state chairmen warning of hard times ahead for Democrats even if President Clinton is re-elected

unless they take a "radically different approach to our political operations."

In a Sept. 11 letter to the state leaders, Fowler delivered this warning: "Bill Clinton could win re-election and the Democratic Party be left in a weak, ineffective state so that we will not be competitive with Republicans for the remainder of the decade, resulting in our being relegated to minority status for years to come."



Fowler listed six steps as "prescriptions" to avoid disaster. He urged Democrats to become more proficient in using modern technology, including plans to "radically improve our financial base."

### BENNETT VS. QUOTAS

Jubilant by African Americans over the O.J. Simpson acquittal has led former drug czar William J. Bennett to become an active advocate in behalf of the anti-affirmative action proposition on the California ballot next year.

Bennett's response is in sharp contrast to the defense of the verdict by former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp, his colleague in the Empower America conservative organization.

"They [blacks] were cheering the fact that for one of the few times in recorded history they felt like justice was being done for a black man," Kemp said on NBC's "Meet The Press."

Black conservative Robert Woodson, Kemp's longtime friend and supporter, was offended by his remarks. To Woodson, Kemp

was being unintentionally "demeaning" to African Americans. Bennett, Woodson and other conservatives plan to meet soon to map out a strategy on the racial question.

### OSTRICH TROTS OUT

Tony Blankley, House Speaker Newt Gingrich's press secretary, appeared on television with an ostrich - symbolizing Republican charges that Democrats keep their heads in the sand - only after six GOP House members turned down the honor.

When he heard that House Democrats were rolling out a papier-mache Trojan horse depicting what the Republicans are doing to social-spending programs, Blankley proposed countering with a live ostrich. He found one on a farm in nearby Culpeper, Va.

Blankley requested one senior House Republican to pose with the ostrich. He refused. He then approached five junior members, whom he thought might be interested in some free publicity. Each, in turn, refused. So, Blankley - once a child actor in Hollywood - eagerly took on the chore of leading the ostrich around.

The stunt appeared on national television news broadcasts, including repeated usage on CNN.

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

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### AMERICAN OUTLOOK

PRODUCED BY:

CHICAGO  
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FEATURES  
SYNDICATE

## Semper Fidel

BY DAPHNE BARAK AND RICHARD GOODING

Just before I left for Cuba, on a too-long flight by way of Mexico City and Cancun, a prominent New York businessman whose vast holdings happen to include gambling casinos pulled me aside. "When you see Fidel," he whispered conspiratorially, "tell him I'd love to open a casino in Havana - the minute we're allowed in."

No one in Cuba, of course, needs a reporter to pass the message that the American business world is waiting on the beachhead, ready for the signal, any signal, to land.

And in the first week of October, there was a signal, of sorts. Two days after discussing Cuba with Pope John Paul II in Newark, President Clinton eased restrictions on Cuban-American travel to the island, U.S.-Cuban cultural exchanges, U.S. charitable donations to Cuban non-governmental groups, and on the activities of Cuban news bureaus on American soil. (Now it looks as if the U.S. will grant Castro a visa, for the first time since 1979, to attend the U.N.'s 50th-anniversary celebration later this month.) Phil Gramm accused the president of "putting out the welcome mat to Castro instead of tightening the noose around his aging neck." Bob Dole called for a quick Senate vote on the Helms-Burton bill, which would penalize foreign firms and countries that do business in Cuba. Whatever the outcome, the Cuban issue is on stage, front and center and divisive as ever, for the coming presidential year.

"I don't understand why foreigners don't invest more in Cuba," Deputy Minister of Foreign Investment Roberto Talarid tells me in his office, in a building threatening to collapse at any moment. The curtains are torn, the air conditioning drips even more humidity into the saturated air (it doesn't work at all in the rest of the building) and the elevator is stuck on the ground floor. Cuba, he insists, "is one of the most stable countries in the world - really. You invest money today, and there is no military or financial downside that is predictable..."

One who did invest - although apparently not in the traditional sense - was fugitive American financier and scam artist Robert Vesco. For 15 years, he was an honored citizen of Havana, a personal friend of Castro's, and then suddenly on May 31 he was arrested at his mansion and thrown into the dreaded Santa Maria prison. It was major news in the U.S. and around the world, but without access to CNN or any American media, not a word of it reached here; not one line appeared in the Cuban national newspaper. The American press speculated that Castro was throwing a bone to Clinton. Castro's spin was this: "He was a spy." I beg your pardon? "Yes. When he came to Cuba he had a very positive attitude toward the revolution. But we finally found out that he had changed his ways..." Translation: Vesco was no longer willing or able to line the pockets of his hosts.

Right now, the U.S. is virtually the only country missing the boat into Cuba. Latin American nations, no longer threatened by the island's waning ideology, scramble to trade with Cuba, Mexico, which earned Castro's undying affection by refusing to join the U.S. embargo, is pouring in \$2 billion, making it the island's largest foreign investor, according to recent figures in *The New York Times*. And Brazil has signed the most recent big-money deal, to take over cigarette production in a country whose residents consume 12 billion cigarettes a year.

Is Washington simply waiting for Castro to die? His passing would certainly make it easier to lift the embargo. But by waiting, the embargo limits America's input on the succession process.

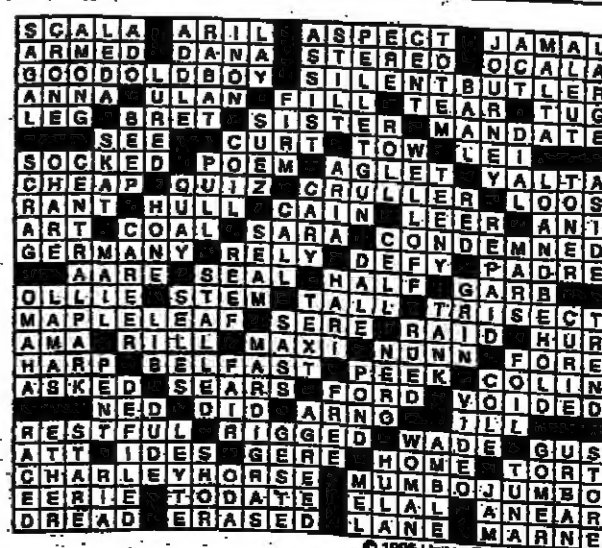
"It's not really my fault that I'm still alive," Castro says with a smile. "It's not really my fault that they didn't manage to kill me." But Castro, despite rumors of a throat ailment and a mysterious hospitalization, is far healthier than his revolution.

The Cuban Revolution has not lost its occasional bite. A German tourist lacking the proper visa recently landed in jail, without his clothes. Even after the German ambassador secured his release, he was forced to sign a statement of guilt and to pay \$110 for "room and breakfast" - a cell, and milk and sugar. Members of my TV film crew were so edgy about secret police that when a maid in their hotel walked in on them after midnight to offer a Leona Helmsley-style courtesy bedtime mint, they imagined the worst and blocked her entry. Ordinary Cubans still won't hazard anything but servile flattery of Castro to strangers. But, like Robaina, they speak of the revolution in the past tense. When Castro is gone, what will be left?

"Believe me," says Castro of his passing, "the life of Cuba is not going to stop for one second, even a bit of a second." Asked who will succeed him, he replies, "This is a question you should ask the CIA. They spend so much time on how I'm going to end up..." Fidel looks more bemused than disturbed by the prospect; it's clear he's thought about it a lot as well.

Daphne Barak is a journalist whose interviews with royalty and political leaders have been published in *The Sunday Times* and elsewhere. Richard Gooding is a writer and former metropolitan editor of *The New York Daily News*. This article first appeared in *The New Republic*.

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Examination Board...  
1. Appointments who...  
2. Appointments who...  
3. Appointments who...  
4. Appointments who...  
5. Appointments who...



# The Gymnasia: A Zionist-intellectual factory

THERE AND THEN  
RAYA SHAPIRO

**H**ERZLIYA Gymnasia recently celebrated its 90th birthday. It is the first ever Hebrew high school, and my alma mater. I remember Dr. Ben-Zion Mosinson, the principal, theatrically discussing Job. His deputy, Dr. Haim Bograshov, clumped about the glories of the Land of Israel. Dr. Haim Harari, a born aesthete, radiated bonhomie while reviewing the Hebrew letters. Dr. Baruch Ben-Yehuda, a graduate of the Gymnasia, made mathematics exciting by weaving H.G. Wells stories into the curriculum.

Ben-Yehuda was also a musician; on Saturday afternoons he liked his musically inclined pupils to assemble at his home and listen as he played his concertina. Discipline was held in much lower esteem at the Gymnasia than it was at Dr. Biram's Reali High School in Haifa. Poor Dr. Yehuda Metman-Cohen, who taught natural sciences, suffered the most. Occasionally, unable to control the class, he just insulted the pupils. Dr. Citrony, a phlegmatic type who was supposed to teach us Talmud and Latin, accepted his fate resignedly and occasionally lay down across a row of chairs.

Metman-Cohen was the titular founder of the Gymnasia. He and two of his friends attended the University of Berne, Switzerland, at the beginning of this century. Mossinson and Bograshov argued that if there should be a Hebrew University, as the Zion-



Stately Herzliya Gymnasia faces a bustling street scene. It was argued that there must be a high school to train young intellectuals 'firm with the Zionist creed at heart' and to prepare them for university.

ist Congress had envisioned, there must also be a high school to train young intellectuals "firm with the Zionist creed at heart" and to prepare them for the university. Menahem Ussishkin, a

steadfast Zionist leader in Russia, supported the idea, promising to help raise funds from the Zionists for this project. Metman-Cohen and his wife Fania opened the Gymnasia in

1905, a week after Succot. It was located in a dismal four-room house just behind the Government House in Jaffa. Initially, 17 of the estimated 60 10- to 11-year-old children in the Jewish

community in Jaffa were enrolled in the school's two grades. By the end of the first school year, the number of pupils rose to 40. Of course, this was long before my time. I read the details in

*Sipura Shel Herzliya Gymnasia ("The Story of Herzliya School")* by Baruch Ben-Yehuda.

The name Herzliya was appended to the school at the insistence of Jacob Moser, a retired magistrate who was once the mayor of Bedford, England. Moser promised to donate 80,000 francs to build a permanent abode for the Gymnasia if it bore Herzli's name. Moser sent Dr. Moses Gaster to inspect the new school. Gaster was bewildered with what he saw; pupils studied the Bible not from the traditional text but from selections made by Bialik and Ravnitzky. Moreover, they did so bare-headed.

Moser himself proved to be more open-minded. He visited the Gymnasia himself, approved of what he saw, and promised to cover all expenses for a new building. One estimate was that he spent 250,000 francs on the project. The building rose beside the newly erected garden-city of Tel Aviv. It was a two-story structure; the entrance was flanked by columns inspired by pharaonic Egypt. A dome, suggested in the early sketches, was eliminated in the final plan.

The Gymnasia instantly became the center of Tel Aviv life. It contained the only medium-sized hall for public meetings and amateur theatrical performances. Its vast courtyard - sheltered from inquisitive eyes by the main building - served as a sports field in normal times and as a rallying point during emergencies. It was there that corpses of those murdered by Arab rioters were usually brought before their funerals. Herzliya teachers were naturally involved in political life. Mossinson was the deputy mayor

of Tel Aviv. He invariably took part in Zionist congresses abroad and was seldom seen at home. A street laid through a neighborhood which Bograshov had helped build was named for him. Others were prominent in a variety of fields - Mordechai Kriechewski in music and Avraham Aldema in arts.

The students also joined political organizations. Abrasha Schechterman, from my class, was in the Revisionist camp. Labor leader Moshe Shertok, one of the first graduates, advised a group of my contemporaries who resolved to establish a kibbutz after they graduated. The prevailing atmosphere then was that youth should not waste time studying algebra but should fulfill national duty by "settling on the land."

The old building of the Herzliya Gymnasia was razed long ago, allegedly to allow Herzl Street to be extended northward - today the Shalom Tower stands in its place. One suspects that the Gymnasia, which had been deeply in debt, had no alternative but to move out of the area which had become the "city" of Tel Aviv and sell the valuable land it was built upon.

A wall in the sports hall in the new Herzliya Gymnasia on Jabotinsky Street bears the image of the original building. The late Hadassah Sherman-Friel, the musician, did her best to preserve memories of the past by organizing a permanent exhibition of photographs as well as frequent meetings of past graduates.

"We are a family," Metman-Cohen declared upon inaugurating the building on Herzl Street. Old-timers thriving on memories do feel like that even now.

## For photographers, angles can be the spice of life

ON CAMERA  
DAVID BRAUNER

**L**OOKING at a friend's album of his recent travel pictures, "On Camera" was impressed. The pictures were sharp and workmanlike. But, as I turned the pages, a somewhat disturbing pattern began to develop. Shot after shot was taken from only one angle: straight-on at eye level. Not once did the photographer point his camera up or down at the wonderful sites he visited.

It is so easy to hop out of the car, click the shutter at the beautiful landscape, and quickly drive on to the next site.

But, when most travelers come home with their pictures, they have to resort to words to describe to their friends how wonderful the scenery was because their photos are flat, dull and disappointing. What many people do not realize is that the camera and the eye "see" the world very differently.

Ansel Adams, the outstanding American landscape photographer and theoretician, pointed out in his book *Camera and Lens* (1948): "The retina of the eye is curved, but photographic film is flat."

In seeing a scene, the human eye, whose roundness matches the curvature of its lens, makes everything look sharp and puts it all in "correct" perspective. In other words, the eye, backed up the brain, adds the dimension of depth so that foreground objects are perceived as larger than those farther away in the background.

For a two-dimensional (flat) photograph to convey the illusion of depth, the camera, like the eye, also needs a little intelligent support. Getting a different or unusual angle or "viewpoint" on a shot does not necessarily mean getting down on the ground like a reptile or climbing to precarious heights. Nor does it mean equipping a vehicle, as Adams did, with a special roof platform and a light aluminum "ship's ladder" up the side.

Often, dropping down to one knee or mounting a few steps can make a world of difference. Instead of yet another humdrum picture, aim for Olympian dimensions, sometimes known as the "monumental style" of photography.

Remember, the whole cathedral or jumbo jet does not have to fit into the frame. Stepping back to get everything in makes large things look small in the photo.

Often "less is more." The illusion of hugeness comes across best the closer one is, forcing the photographer to change the angle of view either up or down.

Running a shot tightly up the steep steps of a building, or along the heavy rope hawsers of a docked steamship, is a simple recipe for a more exciting picture.

Or, bring the camera right up to the base of a statue or tall tower, and shoot it against a clear sky background. If the outdoor scene is shot from a low angle, the horizon is moved downward, emphasizing the sky's distance in the background. A high angle, on the other hand, will place the horizon near the top of the frame, giving the impression of vast and endless land.

Angling the camera so that objects like mountains overlap makes them seem closer to one another. In color photography, warm hues (reds and oranges) appear to come forward, while cold colors (blues and greens) appear to recede.

The effects of angle are even more pronounced when a wide-angle lens is used. Since most point-and-shoot cameras are generally equipped with fixed wider-than-normal lenses (often 35 mm), anybody can get more professional results in holiday snaps.

Although the books caution to keep cameras level since a sloping horizon generally detracts from the quality of a photograph, sometimes a deliberate slant can



Big Ben, snapped from a low angle against a gray sky to emphasize converging lines. (Brauner)

lend a picture a sense of dynamism.

The one area of photography where non-eye-level angles are likely to create unwanted distortions is portraiture. Taking portraits close-in from too high or

too low can severely alter the apparent scale of features, making chins, noses and eyes protrude unnaturally.

The idea of seeking fresh new angles is not only about taking dullness out of photographs; it is

equally about taking the thoughtlessness out of photography.

Viewpoint is the difference between clicking a snapshot to prove one was there, and making a picture that will be worth looking at time after time.

## History sold to the highest bidder

**B**ILL Gates has bought the Bettmann Archive of photographs, which captures many of the key events and people of the 20th century. He will now own the rights to images used in computer communications, and every time the photographs are used in newspapers or magazines he will gather a fee.

Gates, chairman of Microsoft, the computer software giant, will be able to use them in computerized encyclopedias, CD-Roms and information banks on his nascent service Microsoft Online.

The archive holds 16 million photographs, many familiar around the world. They range from the picture of Winston Churchill giving his victory sign at the end of World War II to the image of a young Vietnamese girl running naked and in agony after being hit by napalm; from a picture of man on the moon to one of an atomic explosion.

Gates, who has an estimated personal worth of \$15 billion, bought the collection through a small company he operates, Corbis Corp., for an undisclosed sum. The move raised immediate questions over the increasing Microsoft domination of the software industry, and the wisdom of so many renowned images being controlled by a single entrepreneur.

Corbis has already acquired the rights to a half-million images, including the paintings in the National Gallery, and is negotiating for the rights to the Hermitage collection in St. Petersburg.

Paul Saffo, a director of the Institute for the Future in California, said: "The cultural issue raised by the Bettmann purchase is whether we are seeing history sold to the highest bidder, or whether we'll eventually see history made more accessible to the public as a result."

Corbis plans to create "a visual encyclopedia of the world, including history, lands, people, the arts and culture." The Bettmann Archive contains the collections of the United Press International agency, Acme News Pictures, Pacific and Atlantic Photos, International News Photos and the library of the former New York Daily Mirror newspaper.

The archive, in Manhattan, was founded in the 1930s by Dr. Otto Bettmann, a refugee from Nazi Germany. The enormous inventory includes a photograph of Albert Einstein sticking out his tongue, collections from the Great Depression, pictures of the Duchess of Windsor, and the best-selling New York poster of a building crew eating lunch while perched on a steel beam high above the city during the construction of the Rockefeller Center.

Gates set up Corbis in 1989 to secure the rights to images and then digitalize them for computer use. Although he was thinking of future business, Corbis was also set up to allow him to display famous images on the giant screens in his futuristic Seattle home which claims to offer an ever-changing gallery of art.

His acquisitions include the painting of Napoleon on horseback, "Bonaparte Crossing the Great St. Bernard," by Jacques-Louis David, and, last year, the Leonardo Coda, a notebook of Leonardo da Vinci.

The 21st-century plan is to be able to market the images via computer to individual customers as well as conventional businesses. The idea is for a child doing homework, or a businessman designing a report, to be able to access illustrations via the Internet or equivalent system, pay a small fee via credit card, and secure one-time use of the image. "The future is the use of digital images by millions of consumers instead of tens of thousands of businesses," said Doug Rowan, president of Corbis.

(The Daily Telegraph)

Ministry of Health

Examination Board for Medical License for Internship ("Stage")

Examination Board: Internship Qualification Examination, in accordance with the regulation of the Physicians' Law 1988, I announce that:

1. Applicants who qualified abroad, and who are required to take the internship examination may register for the next term examination until 20/11/95.
2. Application forms are available at, and should be submitted to the Regional Health Ministry offices serving the applicant's residence area.
3. An announcement regarding the date and venue of the examination will be published in official publications and daily newspapers, at least 30 days prior to the date of the examination.
4. Details regarding the languages of the examination will be included in a further announcement.
5. Explanatory material related to the examination can be obtained from the Regional Ministry of Health office, and from the board of the examination.

Prof. Joseph G. Schenker  
Chairman of the Board of Examination  
According to the Israel State Regulations 1988

Ministry of Health

Examination Board for Medical License

Examination Board: Medical License examination, in accordance with the regulation of the Physicians' Law 1988, I announce that:

1. Applicants who qualified abroad, and who are required to take the license examination may register for the next term examination until 20/11/95.
2. Application forms are available at, and should be submitted to the Regional Health Ministry offices serving the applicant's residence area.
3. An announcement regarding the date and venue of the examination will be published in official publications and daily newspapers, at least 30 days prior to the date of the examination.
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# Seattle becomes a great baseball town

SEATTLE (AP) - The fate of the Seattle Mariners is now in the hands of local politicians after manager Lou Piniella and his players did all they could to save baseball in Seattle.

"It was a season where baseball in Seattle is going to be saved, a season where they will get a new stadium here," the third-year Mariners manager said. "It was a season where this city proved it can be a great baseball city."

On Tuesday night, the Mariners were eliminated - two victories shy of the World Series - by the Cleveland Indians in the AL championship series. The Mariners lost 4-0, but the enthusiasm of the 58,489 fans in the Kingdome may have said otherwise.

By finally catching the city of Seattle's attention in their 19th season, the Mariners appear to be in a position to get a new ballpark with a retractable roof.

If legislation to fund construction of the \$325 million stadium is approved by the King County Council, the threat to leave town will vanish. The council is expected to vote on the matter tomorrow.

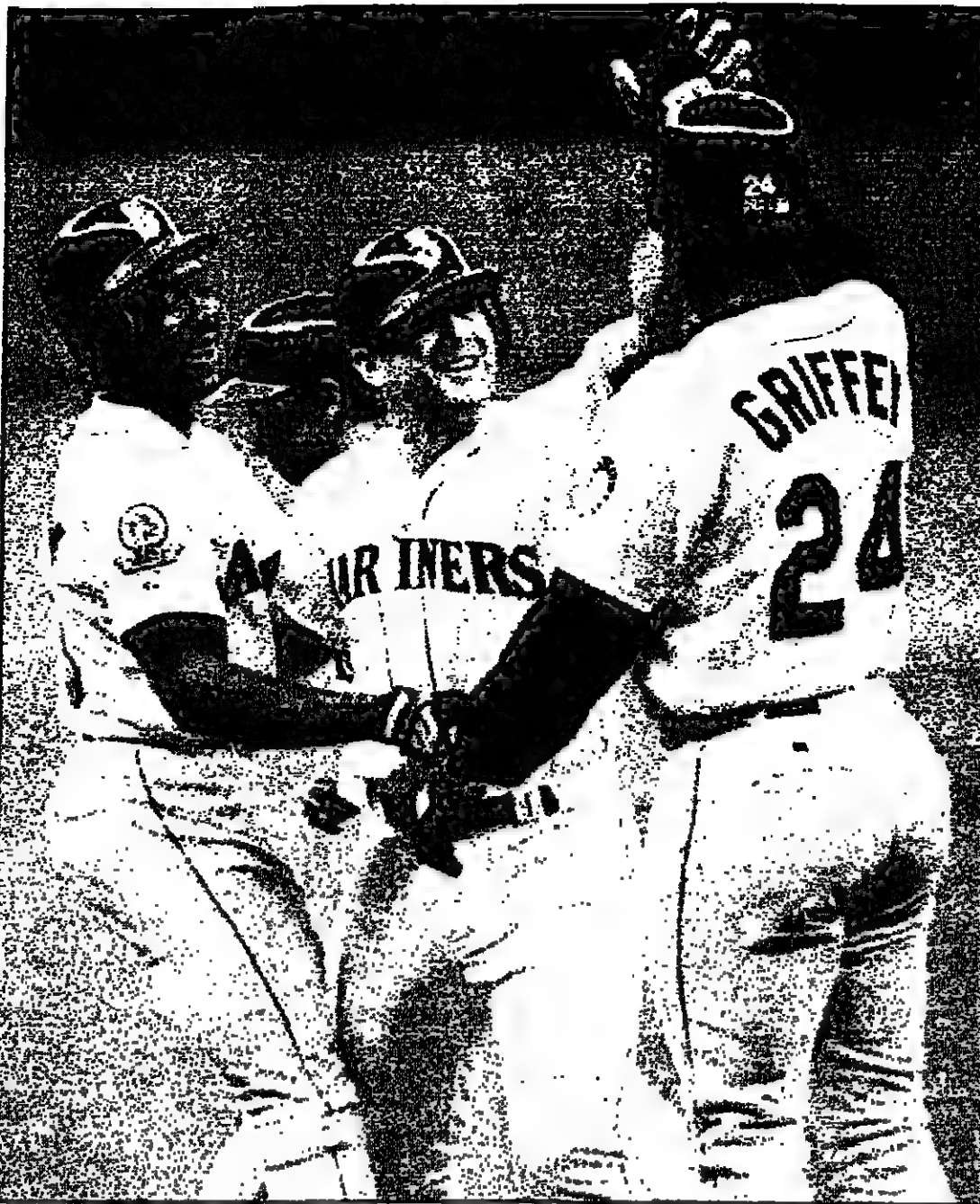
Meanwhile, the core of the team will remain and try to win the AL pennant next year.

"If spring training started tomorrow, I guarantee you there would be 25 guys there ... ready," Ken Griffey Jr. said.

In an exciting September race that had crowds of 50,000-plus streaming into the Kingdome, Seattle overcame a 13-game deficit in the AL West, then beat California in a one-game playoff for the division title. The Mariners lost the first two games of the playoffs against the New York Yankees, then swept three straight to advance to the ALCS against Cleveland.

"You get to within a couple games of the World Series and you have to be pleased with that," third baseman Mike Blowers said. "Not too many guys get that close, and we know we're close now."

For the first time in their history, a history that includes 17 losing seasons, the Mariners spent



HOME SWEET HOME - Seattle's Edgar Martinez (c) is congratulated by Ken Griffey Jr. and Vince Coleman after home run against the Yankees in divisional playoffs. (Reuters)

money to try to win at the end of the season. They added starting pitcher Andy Benes in a trade with San Diego. They also picked up leadoff hitter and left fielder Vince Coleman and closer Norm Charlton.

Piniella convinced the Mariners' owners they needed to spend the money late in the season in a bid to win the AL wild

card. The team won the division instead.

Piniella is more optimistic than ever about the Mariners' future.

"I think now Seattle will be the top choice of a lot of players," he said. "The good free agents basically want to go to a winning ball club, and we're a winning ball club now."

And there will be a different attitude among the Mariners next spring.

"This team will go into spring training knowing how to win," said Randy Johnson, who probably will win the AL Cy Young Award. "It should be very exciting going down there and having all the same faces, hopefully. We'll be starting from the per-

spective that we ended the season going farther than even most of us anticipated."

Faced with \$30m in losses this season and \$67m in losses since they bought the franchise 3 1/2 years ago, the Mariners owners say they're looking at losing \$15m more during each of the next three seasons before a new stadium could be ready by 1999. In addition, they're committed to contributing \$45m for the new stadium.

Griffey's \$24m, four-year contract expires after the 1996 season. He may be baseball's best player, and Mariners management will want to make sure he doesn't leave.

AL batting champion Edgar Martinez figures to have his \$3.5m option exercised by the team. He, too, is eligible for free agency after 1996.

"I hope this team will stay intact," Johnson said. "I think the stadium issue will pass and we'll have a new stadium in a couple of years, but, obviously, this is a business."

Piniella is almost sure to want Blowers back at third base after his 23-homer, 96-RBI season. While shortstop Luis Sojo hit .289, 20-year-old Alex Rodriguez probably will be given the first chance at the shortstop's job next spring. Rodriguez, the first player chosen in the 1993 June draft, is considered to be a can't-miss star of the future.

The future of some of the other Mariners is unclear. Second baseman Joey Cora hit .297, but made 23 errors during the regular season. Benes was 7-2 after joining the Mariners, but was a disappointment in the Indians series. Bobby Ayala had 19 saves this season, but lost his closer's job to Charlton. Coleman sparked the team late in the season, but had a 2-for-20 series against Cleveland.

The Mariners discovered a bright, young pitching prospect in 22-year-old rookie Bob Wolcott, who beat the Indians in Game 1. In the spring, Wolcott will be given a chance to join a rotation that is headed by Johnson, the league's ERA champion and the top strikeout pitcher in baseball the past four years.

# Lofton runs Tribe into World Series

CLEVELAND (AP) - You might have to use the slow-motion or frame-by-frame feature on your VCR to catch it. That blur you see rounding third and heading for home - that'll be Kenny Lofton.

Bothered by a series of injuries during the regular season, first to his rib cage and later to his leg, Lofton assured al and sundry last week that he was healthy. As if to prove it, he then scored all the way from second base on a passed ball that deflated Seattle and sent Cleveland to the World Series against the Atlanta Braves. The first game was scheduled for last night.

It was during base-running, too risky for most runners but an excellent gamble for someone as swift as Lofton, who scored 93 runs in 118 games this year.

In the six-game AL championship series with Seattle, Lofton hit .458, helping the Indians scratch out runs here and there because their usually high-powered offense never kicked in consistently.

"He made things really go for them," Seattle manager Lou Piniella said. "Lofton had a great series. He was on base just about every time you looked up."

Even at less than his best for much of this year, Lofton still managed to steal 54 bases for his fourth consecutive AL stolen-base crown. He's only the second man in AL history to lead the league in steals each of his first four seasons; Luis Aparicio did it nine straight times from the start of his career in 1956.

"I think that's basically a lead-off hitter's job, to get on base and make things happen," Lofton said. "That's why I try to do it." The Mariners were well aware of how disruptive Lofton can be. In Tuesday night's clinching game, Seattle starter Randy Johnson sent him an early message - an 0-2 pitch that whistled past Lofton's head, sending him sprawling to the ground during his first at-bat.

Lofton got the message, and he struck out in that at-bat and again

in the third inning. But his teammates helped him regain his composure in time to drive in the Indians' first run with a single in the fifth.

"Some guys on the bench came to me and said, 'Shake it off and keep doing what you've been doing. You can get Randy, so just stay in there,'" Lofton said. "After my second or third at-bat, I did that."

His speed didn't really become a factor, though, until the eighth inning. After Tony Pena led off with a double, Lofton bunted pinch-runner Ruben Amaro to third and beat out the bunt for a single.

Lofton stole second, putting runners at second and third with no outs and setting up a play that will surely be replayed on the VCRs of Indians fans for years to come.

With the Indians clinging to a 1-0 lead, Johnson threw an outside pitch that ricocheted off catcher Dan Wilson's glove and bounced toward the Cleveland dugout.

Amaro scored easily. What Johnson and Wilson didn't realize, though, was that Lofton never broke stride around third. Wilson retrieved the ball, saw what was happening and fired it to Johnson, who was covering the plate but didn't know Lofton was sliding in beside him.

Amaro was as surprised as the Mariners.

"I had no idea Kenny was coming," Amaro said. "All of a sudden I heard everybody screaming. I turned around, and there he was. He must have been in 15th gear. That was the biggest play of the game. We went from one run up to three runs up without swinging the bat."

Obviously distracted by it all, Johnson gave up a home run by Carlos Baerga one out later.

"They weren't paying attention," Lofton said. "At first I wasn't going to try. But I was trying to bluff and run real hard and see how they reacted off me, and they never reacted. So I just kept on running."

# European soccer heads for 'horrors' of US-type free agency

LONDON (AP) - Delon Sanders probably would appreciate the court ruling issued in the tiny Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Soccer bosses across Europe, particularly in Britain, reacted with shock and horror to the interim finding by Carl Otto Lenz, advocate general of the European Court of Justice.

His decision could set off a revolution in European soccer by paving the way for a system that has helped make multi-millionaires out of Sanders and other American superstars: free agency.

"This rule has been made up by people who don't live in the real world," said Ivor Beeks, chairman of the English Second Division club Wycombe Wanderers. "It will destroy the game as we know it."

Acting in a case involving an obscure Belgian player, midfielder Jean-Marc Bosman, Lenz ruled that Europe's traditional system of soccer transfers is illegal.

The existing system works like this: When a player's contract expires and he wants a transfer, his new club pays his old club a negotiated fee.

If the Luxembourg finding is upheld as expected by the full European Court later this year, clubs would no longer receive compensation when a player leaves at the end of his contract. Transfer fees for players switching teams in mid-contract would not be affected.

That means players would become free agents and be able to negotiate their own terms, setting the stage for salaries and signing bonuses that might approach those of US athletes.

"It means a paradise for players and agents," said Martin Edwards, chairman of wealthy Manchester United.

Agent Paul Stretford said the new regulations would lead to a "tremendous explosion" in salaries.

"You will see contract developments moving along the lines of the NFL in the States," he said. "By the turn of the century, the situation will be that the top earners over here will be edging very close to the top earners in American sport."

A star player like Eric Cantona, the French striker for Manchester United, reportedly makes between \$23,250 and \$31,000 a

week.

"The Eric Cantona of this world, those who already receive obscene wages, will have their earnings increased tenfold," predicted Sam Hamman, outspoken owner of the Wimbledon soccer club. "I can see a day within the next five years when a player earns £5 million a year."

That would rival the seven-year, \$35m contract that Sanders signed with the Dallas Cowboys.

Kasey Keller, the star American goalkeeper for the First Division club Millwall, doubts soccer players will ever come close to the salaries of American athletes like Dan Marino, Michael Jordan or Ken Griffey Jr.

"There are probably 2,500 to 3,000 professional soccer players in Britain," he said. "In the NBA, there are about 450. With the sheer number of people playing in Europe, I don't think the salaries will reach American levels. Maybe one or two players will reach the middle level but never the American superstar status."

If transfer fees are outlawed, Keller suggested soccer officials should introduce a US-style salary cap.

"It's something to consider as a safeguard so the big team can't just buy all the top players," he said.

While players stand to benefit from the advent of free agency, small clubs face the prospect of going out of business.

In Britain, small clubs groom young talent and sell them onto bigger teams at a profit to sur-

vive. If the Bosman ruling is put into effect, the clubs could lose this crucial lifeline.

"You can kiss goodbye to the majority of smaller clubs if this goes ahead," said Pat Holland, manager of the Third Division club Leyton Orient.

Wimbledon's Hamman estimated that up to 800 out of 92 professional clubs could go bankrupt.

"This benefits the rich and powerful," he said. "Teams like Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal will become megarich. Others could close down."

But Rick Parry, chief executive of the Premier League, said the doomsayers were exaggerating the situation.

"There has been a bizarre, hysterical reaction even by football standards," he said. "Suggestions that clubs are going to go under left, right and center are premature to say the least."

While major soccer nations like Italy and Spain have cut down on spending, transfer fees have been spiraling out of control in Britain.

During the past offseason, between \$124-140m changed hands on the British transfer market.

Liverpool alone splashed out \$20m, including a British record fee of \$13m to get striker Stan Collymore from Nottingham Forest.

"If a footballer has only one year to go on his contract, you're not going to throw big money at that situation when you know later you will get him for nothing," said Hamman.

# Native Americans protest

ATLANTA (Reuters) - Native American groups said Friday they will protest at the World Series because the use of Indian mascots and symbols by the Atlanta Braves and the Cleveland Indians encourages racism and stereotyping.

"We're the only race of people that has sports mascots and sports teams named after them," said

## World Series on Cable TV

The first game of the World Series will be telecast at 7 pm today on Sports Channel, according to program director Zvi Levy. Information on subsequent broadcasts will be published as it becomes available.

Ken Rhyne, a co-director of the American Indian Movement.

"If it was the Atlanta Negroes, the Atlanta Hispanics, any situation like that, the stadium would be burned down overnight."

The National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media, a loose-knit group of 48 organizations founded when the Washington Redskins played in the 1992 Super Bowl, plans to protest at each of this year's games.

"We're not asking for jobs. We're not asking for any handouts. We're not asking for the land back. We're just asking for little integrity, asking you to quit making fun of our people," said coalition executive director Michael Haney, a Seminole from Glenpool, Oklahoma.

The 1995 championship has been called the politically incorrect World Series with Cleveland's smiling "Chief Wahoo" logo and the "tomahawk chop" chant popular among Braves fans considered particularly offensive.

The Native American groups said they planned protests both inside and outside the Atlanta stadium.

In other news, the Baltimore Orioles fired manager Phil Regan and announced the resignation of general manager Roland Hemond on Friday.

The dismissal of Regan, who led the Orioles to a 71-73 record in his first year as a major league manager, paves the way for the hiring of former Oriole Davey Johnson, who guided the Cincinnati Reds to the National League Central title this year.

# World Series rosters and team comparisons

Cleveland Indians									
Manager: Mike Hargrove	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
15 Sandy Alomar	R/R	6/19/68	6-5	215	333	37	105	14	51
17 Tony Pena	R/R	6/4/57	6-0	180	203	32	61	10	35
Infielders									
03 Carlos Baerga	S/R	11/4/68	5-11	200	528	85	148	27	93
10 Alvaro Espinoza	R/R	2/19/62	6-0	190	628	50	78	25	79
33 Eddie Murray	R/R	2/24/56	6-2	220	399	42	101	6	38
38 Herbert Perry	R/R	9/15/69	6-2	215	314	57	87	15	90
11 Paul Sorrento	L/R	11/17/65	6-2	210	452	82	142	25	73
25 Jim Thome	R/R	11/17/65	6-4	220	452	82	142	25	73
13 Omar Vizquel	S/R	4/24/67	5-9	165	180	12	40	0	7
Outfielders									
30 Ruben Amaro	S/R	2/12/65	5-10	175	441	87	144	0	58
08 Albert Belle	R/R	8/25/66	6-2	210	511	73	104	24	78
35 Wayne Kirby	R/R	1/22/64	5-10	185	651	80	142	12	70
07 Kenny Lofton	L/R	5/31/67	6-0	180	484	85	149	31	107
34 Manny Ramirez	R/R	5/30/72	6-0	190	481	83	149	0	63
Pitchers									
45 Paul Assenmacher	L/L	12/10/60	6-3	210	548	121	173	50	128
56 Alan Embree	R/R	1/23/70	6-2	190	65	7	14	1	8
55 Orel Hershisier	R/R	9/18/69	6-3	193	436	68	141	21	82
44 Ken Hill	R/R	4/24/65	6-2	200	55	7	14	1	8
32 Dennis Martinez	R/R	5/14/55	6-1	180	436	68	141	21	82
49 Jose Mesa	R/R	5/22/66	6-3	225	55	7	14	1	8
41 Charles Nagy	L/R	5/6/67	6-3	200	436	68	141	21	82
37 Chris Ogea	R/R	11/27/70	6-2	200	55	7	14	1	8
38 Eric Plunk	R/R	9/3/63	6-6	220	75	10	21	3	11
38 Jim Poole	R/R	4/28/66	6-2	203	141	30	91	12	31
50 Julian Tavarez	R/R	5/22/73	6-2	165	143	15	36	2	17

Atlanta Braves									
Manager: Bobby Cox	B/T	BORN	HT	WT	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
08 Jesse Lopez	R/R	11/5/70	6-3	185	53	6	14	0	2
11 Charlie O'Brien	R/R	5/1/61	6-2	205	131	16	33	3	21
12 Eduardo Perez	R/R	5/4/68	6-1	175	188	29	39	1	14
Infielders									
02 Jeff Blauser	R/R	10/24/61	5-6	160	196	18	45	9	23
10 Chipper Jones	S/R	4/24/72	6-3	195	23	25	69	5	28
10 Mark Lemke	S/R	6/19/65	6-3	195	69	17	33	0	26
27 Fred McGriff	L/L	10/8/63	6-3	215	28	19	52	0	23
16 Mike Mordecai	S/R	12/13/67	5-11	175	29	12	37	0	18
Outfielders									
24 Mike Devereaux	R/R	4/10/63	6-0	195	29	7	13	0	6
09 Marquis Grissom	R/R	4/17/67	5-11	190	67	7	13	0	6
23 David Justice	L/R	4/14/66	6-3	200	67	7	13	0	6
19 Ryan Klesko	L/R	6/27/70	6-3	185	29	7	13	0	6
17 Luis Polonia	R/R	12/10/64	5-9	160	29	7	13	0	6
07 Dwight Smith	R/R	11/18/63	5-11	190	29	7	13	0	6
Pitchers									
33 Steve Avery	L/L	4/14/70	6-4	190	12	4	3	0	32
31 Pedro Borbon	R/R	11/15/67	6-1	205	12	4	3	0	32
52 Brad Clontz	R/R	4/25/71	6-1	180	29	7	13	0	6
47 Tom Glavine	R/R	3/25/66	6-1	190	47	6	12	0	46
21 Greg Maddux	R/R	4/14/68	6-0	160	23	3	3	0	16
38 Greg McMichael	L/R	12/01/66	6-2	215	23	3	3	0	16
50 Kent Mercker	R/R	2/1/68	6-2	195	23	3	3	0	16
26 Alejandro Pena	R/R	6/25/69	6-1	200	46	8	17	1	36
32 Mike Timlin	R/R	5/18/67	6-3	180	46	8	17	1	36
43 Mark Wohlers	R/R	1/23/70	6-4	207	46	8	17	1	36

TEAM BATTING									
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	BA	IP	H	BB	SO
Atlanta	4814	645	1202	188	618	250	1281	118	1081
Cleveland	5028	840	1481	207	803	291	1301	1251	445

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# Decision on Histadrut corruption charges expected

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and RAINE MARCUS

THE attorney-general is expected to decide this week whether to indict some former senior Histadrut officials on corruption charges, after consulting with the police and the State Attorney's Office.

Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar, a former Histadrut secretary-general, was questioned Friday morning once again by the police team investigating the allegations of corruption in the Histadrut. Former senior Histadrut officials are suspected of using labor federation funds for Labor Party elections both in for the Histadrut and for party primaries before the last Knesset elections.

Sources close to Kessar said that the re-opening of the investigation against him was initiated by people within the Labor Party for political motives.

Kessar, said police, answered all questions posed to him by his investigators. A senior police source added there is apparently insufficient evidence to indict Kessar, who has always maintained his innocence.

"The evidence against Minister Kessar is inconclusive, and is borderline, but the state attorney has the final decision," said the source. "There are some details that have to be clarified."

Kessar was last interrogated nearly five months ago, when he told the police that he did not know about a financial contribution from Austrian trade unions

to the Histadrut, and did not deal with this matter. Police suspect that part of this contribution, which is made annually to support various research projects, made its way to fund Kessar's election campaigns.

Indictments are expected of other senior Histadrut officials, including former secretary-general Haim Haberfeld and former treasurer Arthur Yisraelovitz.

Yisraelovitz, who is believed to have changed his testimony recently, reportedly told the police that he knew of the money from Austria and that Kessar also knew of it.

Yisraelovitz, who has been questioned 15 times by the police in connection with allegedly illegal financial transactions in the Histadrut, claimed he did not know of any such transactions in the Histadrut and had in the past consistently refused to implicate his colleagues.

He has also refused a police proposal that he turn state's witness in return for immunity from prosecution.

But in his last interrogation, when police told him that all his former Histadrut colleagues were denying all connection with the allegations dumping the whole case on him, he admitted knowledge of the Austrian funding.

In an interview in Friday's *Ma'ariv*, Yisraelovitz said that "those who want to bury Kessar are using me as a springboard to

finish him off politically. Add to this the ambition of Police Minister Moshe Shahal...who announced at the early stages of the investigation that soon indictments would be presented, and named names. This was before the prosecution had even seen the investigation material."

During his last interrogation, Yisraelovitz said "they called me and said that everyone had thrown me to the dogs, including Kessar, who said he knew nothing of the primaries' campaign funds. I said that I knew about the funds from Austria, and so did Kessar."

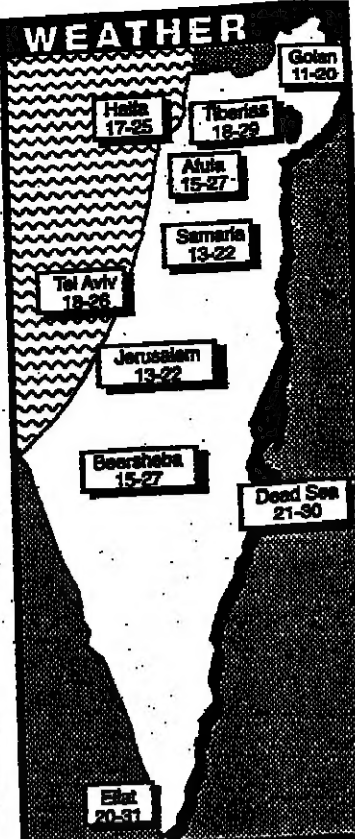
"The Austrians had extremely warm relations with [Kessar]. They - trade union heads, chambers of commerce and mayors - decided to contribute to Kessar's elections," he said.

Yisraelovitz said in the interview that the police questions mainly focused on the investigation agency allegedly employed by Haberfeld's campaign staff against MK Haim Ramon, today Histadrut chairman; on Kessar's primaries; and on [the possible involvement of Labor Secretary-General] Nissim Zivili.

He said the Histadrut's reputation of being a corrupt, stagnant body came from "Ramon and his colleagues, who saw to it. Already in 1987 they announced that the Histadrut is corrupt and inefficient. You could build a career on such statements."



Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar (left) and his spokesman, Eli Danon, leave police headquarters in Jerusalem on Friday after the former Histadrut secretary-general was questioned. (Brim Hendler)



## AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Notes
Amsterdam	8	12	cloudy
Berlin	6	10	cloudy
Brussels	7	11	cloudy
London	9	13	cloudy
Paris	10	14	cloudy
Rome	11	15	cloudy
Madrid	12	16	cloudy
Barcelona	13	17	cloudy
Porto	14	18	cloudy
Lisbon	15	19	cloudy
Madrid	16	20	cloudy
Barcelona	17	21	cloudy
Porto	18	22	cloudy
Lisbon	19	23	cloudy
Madrid	20	24	cloudy
Barcelona	21	25	cloudy
Porto	22	26	cloudy
Lisbon	23	27	cloudy
Madrid	24	28	cloudy
Barcelona	25	29	cloudy
Porto	26	30	cloudy
Lisbon	27	31	cloudy
Madrid	28	32	cloudy
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Porto	30	34	cloudy
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Porto	34	38	cloudy
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Porto	38	42	cloudy
Lisbon	39	43	cloudy
Madrid	40	44	cloudy
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Porto	42	46	cloudy
Lisbon	43	47	cloudy
Madrid	44	48	cloudy
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Barcelona	89	93	cloudy
Porto	90	94	cloudy
Lisbon	91	95	cloudy
Madrid	92	96	cloudy
Barcelona	93	97	cloudy
Porto	94	98	cloudy
Lisbon	95	99	cloudy
Madrid	96	100	cloudy

## US assures Israel: \$1.8b. promised in military aid safe through 1997

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

THE Clinton administration has assured Israel it will safeguard its \$1.8 billion annual military assistance package through fiscal year 1997.

The commitment was contained in a letter given by US undersecretary of state for arms control and international security affairs Lynn Davis to Defense Ministry director-general David Ivry during three days of military-strategic talks here that concluded Friday.

The letter also pledged to con-

tinue the US's strategic cooperation with Israel and assure its qualitative military edge in the region.

An Israeli official said the assurances represent "something very concrete for us."

"It's a sign of the US commitment to Israel and an example of US-Israel strategic cooperation," the official said. "It's one of the bases of the political

relationship."

The two sides also agreed to

continue their regular joint

military exercises as part of

improving readiness to deal

with potential crises in the

region, he added.

The discussions included

IDF reports on redeployment

plans, and US officials reportedly

expressed their appreciation

for the calculated risks Israel

is taking in the

Oslo 2 deal.

The two sides also discussed arms proliferation and the military balance in the Middle East, the threat of Iraq on regional stability and Bosnia.

Ivry met Friday with US Secretary of Defense William Perry to prepare for Perry's meeting here on Wednesday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Israeli officials reported afterward they were surprised by the amount of compliments Perry lavished on the joint US-Israel Arrow missile project.

## Healthy Meshulam in hospital awaits repair of prison

RAINE MARCUS

UZI Meshulam and eight of his followers are staying in the Ayalon Prison hospital until their wing - damaged by a fire last week - is renovated.

On Wednesday, they complained about conditions, saying they could not pray or do laundry there. They were then taken to isolation cells, but refused to enter, said the Prisons Service spokesman, and were transferred back to the hospital wing.

"They do not want to be in the hospital wing either," said the spokesman, who added that there

is no other room in the prison for them. But he denied that Meshulam and his followers are receiving preferential treatment in prison.

The non-smoking, observant wing where Meshulam and his followers are incarcerated should be renovated by tomorrow, said the spokesman.

Meshulam was sentenced to eight years for assault, firing at policemen, illegal possession of weapons, and other counts dur-

ing a two-month siege at his Yehud home.

Eleven of his followers were jailed for lesser terms. Since their incarceration they have protested a number of times, filing petitions against the wearing of prison uniforms, prison food, and numerous other complaints.

Over this past week there have been several demonstrations by Meshulam's supporters opposite the prison. The last one was apparently to protest the refusal by prison authorities to allow Meshulam to build his own succa.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Fire damages Motorola lab

Major damage was caused to Motorola's repairs laboratory in Ramat Gan when a fire broke out in the building early yesterday.

Guards alerted firefighters, who worked for two hours to bring the blaze under control, preventing it from spreading beyond the second floor.

The Ramat Gan fire department said the blaze was apparently caused by a short circuit when a plug overheated on the floor housing the computer laboratory. *Itm*

### Rafael must fire 350 workers

A Civil Service Commission committee has ruled there is no reason to change the March 31 decision that Rafael, the Armaments Development Authority, cannot continue to function this year without dismissing the 350 workers it planned to fire.

The Finance Ministry said the decision would not delay negotiations with workers to find a solution to the situation and turn Rafael into a government company. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### Palestinians prefer joint tourism council

A Palestinian survey measuring 108 local tourist operators' attitudes to Oslo 2 indicates that 74 percent are in favor of a joint regional tourist council with Israel and Jordan. The finding was included in the poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Public Opinion based in Beit Sahur, headed by Dr. Nabil Kokali.

However, only 39% think that the Amman regional economic conference at the end of the month will contribute to the development of Palestinian tourism. *Jon Immanuel*

### Negev wins shooting championship

The Negev district volunteers won the Civil Guard's target shooting championships held Friday near the Ben-Shimon forest.

The Jerusalem Civil Guard came in second place and the Dan region in third.

In the women's target competition, first place went to Natalie Margalit of Jerusalem. Uri Yadin, of the Dan region, won the youth competition. *Itm*

### Man drowns off TA beach

A man drowned and a woman was pulled from the water having nearly drowned yesterday afternoon off Gordon Beach in Tel Aviv.

The two were pulled out of the water at about the same time. An MDA medic declared the man dead at the scene, but succeeded in resuscitating the woman - who was taken in critical condition to Ichilov Hospital, where she remains unconscious and on a respirator.

As of last night, police could not identify either of the two. *Itm*

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## Storm over Ofra Haza Yemen visit

SANAA (Reuters) - Yemeni opposition newspapers on Friday condemned plans to host Ofra Haza next month in Yemen as a step towards normalizing relations with Israel.

*Al-Thawri* weekly, organ of the main opposition Yemen Socialist Party said "The government has no right to take such a step without explicit support from the whole of the Yemeni public."

But *Ma'ariv* quoted Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul-Karim al-Iryani as saying he would try to arrange for Ofra Haza and Shoshana Damari, both of Yemeni origin, to visit Yemen despite a lack of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

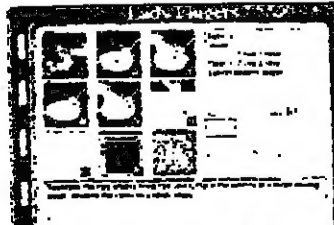
The armed forces newspaper, *September 26*, said in its Thursday edition: "The world famous singer Ofra Haza is due to visit her country of origin, Yemen, in November" but made no mention of her Israeli nationality. *September 26* said Haza "has played a big role in promoting Yemeni songs in international song festivals" and would sing at concerts in a number of Yemeni cities.

## Jaffa protest against collaborators

HUNDREDS of Jaffa residents demonstrated Friday against the continued resettlement of Palestinian collaborators in their neighborhoods.

Tel Aviv city councilor Haled Kabub, a leader of Jaffa's Moslem community, told the protesters that they had every right "to cry out loud and hard against the

resettling of collaborators in Jaffa." He noted that the 150 collaborator families in Jaffa are occupying homes and classroom seats at the expense of veteran Jaffa residents. He said the implementation of Oslo 2 would bring in hundreds more collaborator families who would "destroy society in Jaffa." *(Itm)*



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